



The Bull Sheet

Official Bulletin

Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents



PAUL VOYKIN
Golf Course Superintendent
Calumet Country Club
Our Host

THE MAY MEETING
CALUMET COUNTRY CLUB
HOMewood, ILLINOIS

MONDAY, MAY 2nd, 1960

GOLF — QUESTION BOX
GUEST SPEAKER

Remember — Spring Dinner Dance
River Forest Country Club
Saturday, May 14th, 1960
Mr. and Mrs. Ed Stewart our hosts

THE BULL SHEET, official publication of THE
MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE
SUPERINTENDENTS.

BERT H. ROST, *Editor*,
Midwest Rd. Nr. 31st Street
Hinsdale, Illinois

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The April meeting of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents was held at the Woodridge Golf Club. There were approximately 80 members present. We all enjoyed a fine corned beef and cabbage dinner and heard a very interesting talk by Mr. Roger Thomas, Commercial Mower Sales Manager. Thanks to our host superintendent, Tony Meyer for inviting us and also Mr. Hammerschmidt for his hospitality.

Looking over some of the course, it looked like Tony has been real busy. The greens were cut and looked very nice for this time of the year. Some of us are not so fortunate. We still have frost in our greens and they are very soft. Flood waters have caused quite a bit of damage on some courses including ours. Time no doubt will take care of this; it always does.

In correspondence recently received from Mr. Gene Nutter, Executive Director and Editor of the Reporter, he states that soon they plan to begin publishing in the Reporter a story on the history and growth of each Chapter (district). He asks if we would compile this information unless we have such a history already compiled. This would be published as a continuing series featuring one or two associations in each issue. In addition they would like to know our scheduled meeting time, a schedule of future meeting programs and locations, the time of our annual election and a picture of our current officers. This seems to me to be a good plan and if our association will cooperate we should be able to furnish them with the material they desire. Any suggestions will be appreciated.

Our next regular meeting will be held on Monday, May 2nd, at Calumet Country Club with Superintendent Paul Voykin as our host. The speaker will be Mr. R. Hanson. There will also be a question and answer period. I hope we can play golf on that day.

May Paul and his members of the Calumet Country Club enjoy a perfect golf course this year. The club is always closed on Mondays, but the Board of Governors asked employees to accommodate us on Monday — we are grateful. — Thank You.

In closing may I again remind you of the Dinner Dance to be held on May 14, at the River Forest Country Club. Music will be furnished by John Delmars Orchestra.

Sincerely, Emil Cassier, President

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CLIPPINGS —

Mark Robert Strand was born to Carol and Bob Strand April 5th. This makes Don and Marge 4 time grand parents.

Walter Fuchs of Glen Eagles Country Club is now the official Cow-boy of the club. He herded 4 head of wild western milk cows off the lucious Glen Eagles fairways.

80 members and friends ate a delicious corned beef New England dinner at the Woodridge Country Club the evening of the 7th. It was a good dinner, well served and we all enjoyed the after dinner drink served by Mr. Hammerschmidt. Tony Meyer was our host Superintendent.

Frank Mastroleo is enjoying his retirement as Geneva Country Club. Frank hasn't missed a day.

On April 5, static electricity started a fire at Calumet Country Club. Nobody was hurt, but Paul Voykin, Superintendent there was worried until he found out that insurance covered it 100%. Perhaps Paul will have the damage repaired by May 2 when we meet at his course.

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CLIPPINGS —

Bill Brennan, Superintendent of the the Chevy Chase Golf Course has a new home in Mt. Prospect. Bill and his wife are very pleased with their new abode. Bill also reports that No. 18 green has been completely rebuilt and sodded with Washington bent grass. This green has been enlarged to 8,000 square feet.

Peter Bild, the new Superintendent at the Glen Flora Golf Course in Waukegan, Illinois has rented an apartment near his new job. Pete concentrated on getting his equipment in top shape this past winter and is off to a good start.

Julius Buchen joined his son Dick in the semi-invalid Club. Dick, as you recall, was injured in an auto accident and father Julius would not be outdone; he was run over by a pick-up truck. Fortunately they are both mending very well.

The Knollwood Golf Club, where Lindo Bernardini presides as Golf Course Superintendent, has remodeled and enlarged the ladies powder room and shower facilities.

Adolph Bertucci and Bill Saielli, two of the best in the bowling circles, are soon to schedule a match to determine the north side championship.

Spring, which seemed a long time coming seems at last to be here. A traveler reported that he saw the first farmer discing his fields on the 18th, rather late to be getting in oats, but the truck farmers in North Cook County were planting cabbage in the fields on the 21st. Soon they will be planting tomatoes and we will be on our way again.

There has been a general rush this week to get the outside work on the courses underway. Rolling and fairway cutting were generally started this week but greens had been cut several days ago. It is nice to get out in the morning and feel no chill in the air; like Bill Stuppel must feel when he gets out in Florida in January and smells the ocean breeze.

Mike Britton of the University of Illinois Plant Pathology has been around quite a bit lately bringing the boys up to date on better fungicide practices. Mike has a program that he feels will control fairway fungus at a cost all courses can afford, and is laying out a new fungicide program for bent greens. Any change cannot help but be beneficial, we were always behind the disease before. It might be well to schedule Mike as a speaker in the very near future. He has a lot to offer.

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"SOUND" PROBLEM SOLVING

The April meeting of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents, held April 5th at the Woodridge Golf Club, Lisle, Illinois, saw and heard a new type presentation designed to make the audience doubly aware of the importance of sound in the study of preventive maintenance.

Presented by Roger J. Thomas, commercial products manager of the Jacobsen Manufacturing Co., the course consisted of a combination of tape sounds, a slide presentation and oral instruction. Pointing out that the recognition of trouble-warning sounds applied to all mechanized maintenance equipment, including power lawn mowers, Thomas showed some turf-grass management men how recognizing these sounds and doing something about them could give "thousands of dollars of relief to the budget."

Introducing his subject by explaining that even a new born babe has an innate fear of noises, Thomas said that man goes through a noise evolution during which recognition of sounds becomes a normal part of calm, everyday life. "However," he said, "through the slightest squeak or rattle in a car will cause the owner to head straight for the auto mechanic, yet we seem to feel that noises in lawn mowers will eventually disappear."

"Recognizing a singing bearing noise in time," he said, "would result in a \$4.50 replacement cost. Failure to recognize it, or not doing anything about it could result in more than \$75.00 damage to an engine and mower."

Thomas punctuated his talk with actual sounds from troublesome machinery . . . asking the audience if anyone recognized the danger signals. This was done through the medium of a tape recorder.

The slide portion of the program consisted of photos showing the results of not paying attention to sound. They depicted bearing and gear failures, reel wear and general equipment deterioration.

It was pointed out that the purpose of the recorded sounds was not to teach the audience actual recognition of exact problems, but to realize the importance of noticing and doing something about any warning signals. "Too often," he emphasized, "maintenance men, as well as the average consumer, wait until equipment refuses to operate before they investigate."

Some of the actual sounds heard were intermittent sparking, noisy cutting unit, "singing" bearing, engine knock and mower operation at excessive speed. The tape recorded also played back (in contrast) the sound of normal operating units.

Dr. Eliot C. Roberts of Iowa State's Department of Horticulture, remarked at a recent meeting that "this was an entirely new type of presentation which I am sure gave the audience a completely different viewpoint on helping to solve maintenance problems . . . especially budgetwise. In reality, it was a course in the language of machinery. I'm sure that those attending will be 'tuned in' to their maintenance problems more now than ever before."

The entire presentation took just 45 minutes, yet it contained audience participation plus the variety of slides, recorded sounds and personal comments.

Thomas plans to capture more "sound" problems via the medium of the tape recorded. His company representatives will then tour the country and present this "sound" advice to groups of golf course superintendents, park and highway commissioners and other large acreage mowing equipment men.

Taken From

UNITED STATES GOLF ASSOCIATION GREEN SECTION — Mid-Continent Turfletter

No. 1 February - 1960

"SPRING IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER."

Perhaps this is an old, worn-out saying but it certainly applies to golf course management at this time of year. Now is the time for superintendents to "back off" and thoroughly look over this situation. If all facets of management are properly organized now, the job will be easier and will run more smoothly later on, when the going gets rough. To confirm that you are properly organized we suggest that you ask yourself the following questions:

1. Has all my equipment been thoroughly and properly cleaned and repaired and is it now ready for the coming season?

2. Do I have the proper and sufficient equipment for the coming season? (If certain pieces of equipment break down during the rush season, will I still be able to maintain the course in good condition while awaiting replacement or repairs?)

3. Has my budget been properly prepared? Do I understand it thoroughly and am I prepared for normal operation within its limits? Does the green committee chairman and his committee thoroughly understand and approve the budget?

4. Are the pumps and the rest of the watering system in good working order? Can I repair any possible breaks quickly? Have the sprinklers been checked? Are they known to be in good working order or has replacement of worn out sprinkler heads been delayed because of expense?

5. Have I studied the turf areas which suffered last season because of improper watering? If so, what can be done to correct this situation?

6. Have I located a reliable and economical source of fertilizer? If sufficient space is available is the fertilizer stored and ready for use? If sufficient storage space exists, can I get deliveries promptly when the material is needed? Have I properly timed fertilizer applications to coincide with turf and labor demands?

7. Have I ascertained when certain specific diseases are likely to be troublesome? Will I have the fungicides available to treat these diseases, immediately when detected? Do I have personnel properly trained to perform this important operation or must I do it myself?

8. Do I plan to follow a preventive fungicide schedule this year? If so, when will I start, what will be the frequency of application, and which chemical or chemicals will I apply?

9. Will it be necessary to control weeds on a large scale this year? If so, what will I apply and when should it be applied? Are the chemicals to be used readily available or do I have them on hand?

10. Is my labor force completely planned? Are my key employees familiar with their duties? Will some of the part time men I have had in the past return this year? Where will I look for others? How many men will be needed on June 1, July 1, August 1, etc. How much of my time will be required to train new employees?

11. Have I organized and planned flowers and plantings for the club house grounds and other areas? Is there an employee I can trust to be responsible for this important duty?

12. Have I kept abreast of long range operations such as tree plantings, tee repairs, green rebuilding,

fairway reseeding, etc. If so, which operation is to be worked on or completed this spring?

"BE SURE YOU'RE RIGHT, THEN GO AHEAD" — David Crockett

PRESENT AND FUTURE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANT PATHOLOGY TO THE ILLINOIS TURF-GRASS PROGRAM

Services are now available through our Extension Plant Pathologist to golf clubs and home owners and others having turf disease problems. These include 1) personal calls providing "on the spot" disease diagnosis and recommendations for control, 2) informational talks at group meetings, and 3) establishment of plots to demonstrate disease control methods and materials.

In addition to the services outlined above, current information is prepared and released as Departmental publications: "Reports on Plant Diseases" and "Plant Disease Pointers". These publications have a limited distribution because of printing costs.

To strengthen the informational services on turf-grass diseases, it is absolutely necessary to have an active and progressive research program in Illinois. To our knowledge, no research on diseases of turf grasses is now being conducted anywhere in the midwest.

Some objectives of a research program on turf diseases are as follows:

1. Evaluate under putting green and lawn conditions the effectiveness of fungicides presently used singly or in combination for turf disease control.

2. Evaluate new fungicide in laboratory and greenhouse for disease control, toxicity to plants, and compatibility with other chemicals applied to turf. Satisfactory materials will be tested under field conditions.

3. Identify the cause of disease situations and develop controls. For example, the fungi *Curvularia* and *Helminthosporium* are almost always present in the same diseased area and as a consequence, it is not actually known which one is the primary cause of the disease situation. Controlled experiments would provide the answer and information leading to better control measures.

4. Evaluation of clonal selections of bent grass, bluegrass, etc. for resistance to specific or combinations of disease-producing organisms.

5. Study the effect of fertilizers, irrigation practices, height of mowing, aeration, etc. on incidence, development and control of disease.

Until funds are obtained for hiring a research man, little research on diseases of turf grasses can be conducted by the Department of Plant Pathology. Some fungicide evaluations can be made on plots established for demonstrating disease control methods and materials.

NOTICE TO ALL GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS IN ILLINOIS

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HAVE WE PROGRESSED ? ?

The following article is a combination of two letters written by a former member of the Midwest Association, Norman Johnson. Although these letters were originally written in 1946, the material presented and the message implied is as current and timely today as it was fourteen years ago. Have we progressed? It is generally understood that travel broadens the mind to understand better the problems and conditions that are allied with the individual's personal interests. Meetings with other Superintendents makes our work so much more interesting. The exchanging of ideas and practical experiences among each other tends to cement a closer relationship and understanding of our turf problems and Association affairs. Perhaps these hot-stove remarks may answer part of that question we hear quite frequently from prospective members who usually inquire before making formal application: "Just what has the Association to offer us in return for our due card?" It's a fair question. No doubt this question has been discussed by various district groups over many a cup o'hot java. The most apropos and intelligent answer that comes to my attention is that no one individual or group should expect to receive more in return for what he or they have actually contributed for the good of the Association. One's monetary effort cannot be considered as the means of acquiring the real benefits but in reality should be measured by the efforts one exerts in attending meetings, turf conferences and lending sincere cooperation when-

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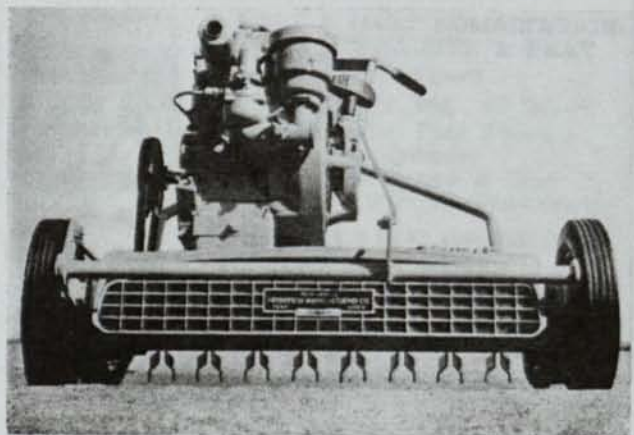
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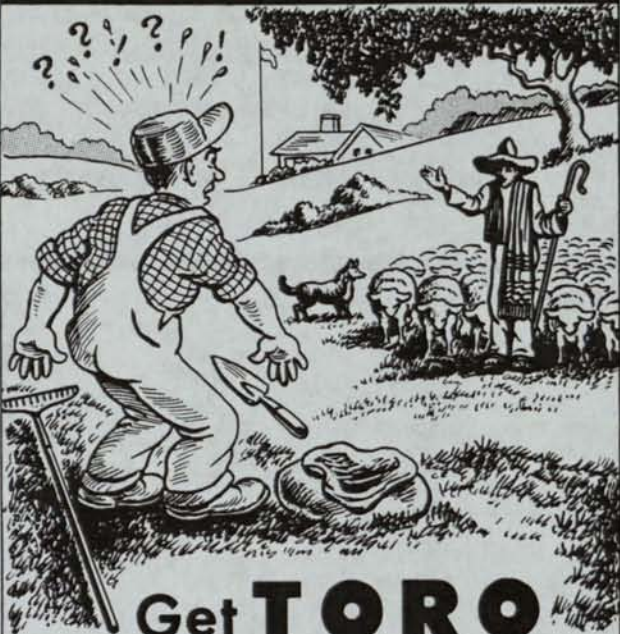
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ever possible in Association activities. The diligent exercise of the privileges extended to each member by the Association will give us all a much better opportunity to become familiar with the purpose of our Association and eliminate some of the prevailing isolationist complex among members. Everyone has to pull on the oars with equal effort, particularly when the going gets a little rough. If some of us start resting on our oars, it's going to put a burden on the others, and we are not going to push ahead very far in that manner.

Our Association needs the loyal support of every member if we expect to go forward. The purpose of making our Superintendents organization worthwhile to each of us is a very important matter to think over. Recognition of our ability in all phases of turf management as individuals, and, as a group, recognition of an organization that represents as one of its policies, e. i. a very high standard of maintenance practices, should certainly be known by everyone interested in turf throughout our nation. This matter of recognition is one of our pertinent problems of today. The question has been raised; Just what are we going to do about it? I sincerely believe that all of us, as Superintendents, should become more familiar with our GCSAA functions and its immediate purpose of obtaining a national recognition that is rightfully ours. We are now at the threshold of something worthwhile, so let's drop that back-yard policy and look ahead towards the future welfare of our profession. This work that you and I are associated with is really an interesting vocation. Why not give it an opportunity through our own individual efforts by impressing on the minds of those persons who are religiously interested in the advancement of turf management of the basic and fundamental purpose of our Association. We should take advantage of what the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) has to offer us today by having a strong national representation among the members of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents.

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