



The Bull Sheet

Official Bulletin

Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents



DON GERBER
President
MAGCS

**OUR JANUARY MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 1962
ITASCA COUNTRY CLUB
JOHN COUTRE, OUR HOST**

Dinner 6:00 P.M.

Speaker: O. J. Noer

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

TED WOHRLE, *Editor*,
8700 So. Western Avenue
Chicago 20, Illinois

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President - Donald R. Gerber
1st Vice-President - John C. Ebel
2nd Vice-President - Warren Bidwell
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Donald P. Stewart	William A. Brady
Paul N. Voykin	Bert H. Rost

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This being my first official obligation as President of this fine organization, I think it is appropriate that I introduce myself to those members who I do not have the pleasure of knowing personally.

My name is Donald Gerber and I am the Superintendent at the Chicago Golf Club, Wheaton, Illinois. I reside in Wheaton with my lovely wife Lynn and daughters Kim, Karen and Donna. Previous to my present position at the Chicago Golf Club I was employed by the Glen Oak Country Club for eleven years during which time I completed high school and attended Iowa State College.

Recently I read a newspaper article which may interest some of you. The subject of the article was radioactive isotopes, the man made substances that give off radiation which enables them to be traced wherever they travel. Admittedly, this may be a dreary subject to many of us. However, one of the applications of radioactive isotopes should be interesting to all of us. For example, by tagging plant nutrients it is possible to determine when, where and how plants use them. When it was proved thus that tobacco plants made little use of commercial phosphates, the fertilizer manufacturers changed their analysis. In some areas farmers fertilized their corn at considerable cost before it was detasseled. Use of radioactive phosphorus proved that plants do not use the applied fertilizer after they are knee high. Is it not conceivable that some day radioactive isotopes may influence the manner and methods that we use to grow turfgrass, trees, shrubs and flowers?

I have cited this subject because it illustrates the fact that, although we are constantly confronted with new (and old) problems, science and the men associated with science shall provide us with much of the knowledge which will make our endeavors more fruitful and rewarding. The extent to which they shall aid us will be governed by the support, cooperation and influence of our profession.

But let us not be content with agronomic proficiency. The role of the golf course superintendent in the game of golf has expanded and is becoming increasingly important. Not only shall we be responsible for the maintenance of a golf course, we shall assume administrative and managerial duties. Our prestige shall be the sum of our personality, ability, effort and ambition.

Donald Gerber, President

THE NINTH ANNUAL TURF CLINIC OF THE MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS.

The ninth annual Clinic was held on the 6th and 7th of December at the Olympia Fields Country Club. There were 103 attending which made it one of the more successful clinics to date. The selection of subjects under the theme of "The Stride of the Superintendent" were well chosen by the Chairman John Ebel. The majority of the speakers came from the ranks of the Superintendents themselves. From the comments that were heard I must say that they did a superb job in presenting their material. Many are still talking of the excellent presentations made by the Assistant Superintendents, namely Doug Jabaay, Tom Burrows and Jack Mauer.

Some very fine talks by our old reliable speakers were also given on subjects that were very timely. We will be carrying many of the talks in future issues of the Bull Sheet.

The entertainment that followed the Banquet will be talked about for a long time. Instead of hiring talent as has been the case in the past, the entertainment committee came up with a show that rivals anything that Ed Sullivan has ever presented. Some of the girls in the chorus line were real beauties and the singing of the quartet was outstanding. Charlie Rack stopped the show with his solo numbers. Many of us were not aware of the talents that exist among our own members.

We are all looking forward to next year.

On the morning of the 6th of December we held our annual meeting in conjunction with the clinic. The two changes to the by-laws that were covered in the last issue of the Bull Sheet were voted on and past. The election of officers were as follows:

President — Donald R. Gerber, Chicago Golf Club
1st Vice-President — John C. Ebel, Biltmore Country Club
2nd Vice-President — Warren Bidwell, Olympia Fields Country Club
Secretary and Treasurer — Roy W. Nelson, Ravisloe Country Club

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Paul N. Voykin, Briarwood Country Club
Ted Woehrle, Beverly Country Club
William A. Brady, Barrington Hills Country Club
Bert H. Rost, Butterfield Country Club

Board Meeting

On Tuesday, December 19th, President Donald Gerber called a meeting of the Board of Directors at the Gun Club of Glen Oak Country Club. The main reason for the meeting was to appoint the Chairmen for the various committees. The following men were appointed:

Arrangements Committee — John Ebel, Chairman
Educational Committee — Warren Bidwell, Chairman; Bert Rost, Co-Chairman
Entertainment Committee — Bill Brady, Chairman
Golf Committee — Paul N. Voykin, Chairman
Membership Committee — Donald P. Stewart, Chairman
Bill Saielli — Benevolence and Placement Committee, Chairman

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JANUARY MEETING

The next monthly meeting of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents will be held at the Itasca Country Club on the 9th of January. This is on a Tuesday. Dinner will be served at 6:00 P.M. *Sharp* after which will follow the business meeting. Mr. John Coutre will be the host Superintendent.

The Educational Chairman has informed us that O. J. Noer will be our Guest Speaker. The title of his talk will be, "Lime in the Life of the Plant." This should be very interesting to many of us that are planning on a liming program this winter.

A social gathering of Hearts and Pinocle players will be held in the afternoon. Come early and stay late.

Dues

Roy Nelson, Secretary of our Association informs us that the billing of dues will take place the first of the year and that he would like your payment to be made by return mail. The National Headquarters also requests early payment of dues so that a count on the percentage belonging to the National may be made shortly. The reason for this is because the by-laws of the National require at least 60 percent of our local chapter must belong to the National in order to vote by delegate.

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EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM — 33RD INTERNATIONAL GCSAA TURF-GRASS CONFERENCE AND SHOW

Deauville Hotel, Miami Beach, Florida

January 28 - February 2, 1962

MONDAY, JANUARY 29, 1962

Morning Session: 10:00 A.M. to 12:15 P.M.

Theme: *Getting Acquainted*

- 10:00—Invocation
- Official Welcome to Miami Beach
- Welcome from the Host Association
- Response to Welcome and Official Opening of the Conference

- 10:30—Keynote Address
- 10:45—Toward a Better Understanding
- 11:15—Cape Canaveral and the Race to Space
- 11:45—Golf in Modern Living
- Afternoon Session: 2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.
- Theme: *Selling Yourself*

- 2:00—Developing Your Executive Ability
- 2:30—Down-to-Earth Public Relations
- 3:00—Selling Yourself at the Clubhouse
- 3:30—The Hole in the Do-Nut

TUESDAY, JANUARY 30, 1962

Morning: OFFICIAL OPENING OF EXHIBITS
Afternoon Session: 1:30 to 4:00 P.M.

Theme: *Turf Progress Through Research*

- 1:30—Diagnosis and Control of Turf-Grass Diseases
- 2:00—Soil Amendments in Green Construction
- 2:30—"Top Ten" Turf Tips—Industries Panel
- 3:00—Turf-Grass Nutrition and Fertilization
- 3:30—Searching the Clouds

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31, 1962

Morning Session: 9:30 A.M. to 12:00 M

Theme: *Northern Maintenance*

- 9:30—Spring Desiccation Problems
- 10:00—Panel: Fairways in Review
- Routine Maintenance
- Renovation
- 10:30—A to Z Maintenance of Greens
- 10:50—Break
- 11:00—Review of Pre-Emergence Weed Control
- 11:30—Putting the Course to Bed for the Winter
- Afternoon Session: 1:30 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.
- Theme: *Southern Maintenance Practices and Problems*
- 1:30—A Decade of Turf-Grass Progress in the South
- 2:00—Panel: Wintergrass Overseeding
- 2:50—Break
- 3:00—Panel: Pest Control
- Insects
- Diseases
- Weeds
- 3:45—Shade Problems in the South and the New Grasses

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1962

Morning Session: 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 M

Theme: *Progress Through Knowledge*

- 9:00—Labor Management
- 9:30—Certification and Quality in Seeded Grasses
- 10:00—Safety in Maintenance
- 10:30—Practical Solutions to Golf Car Traffic
- 11:00—The Woman Golfer
- 11:30—\$64 Question—A Quiz Program

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1962

Morning Session: 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 M

Theme: *Golf Course Irrigation*

- 9:00—Sources and Development
- 9:30—Panel: Fairway Factors
- Agronomic Requirements
- Pipe Material and Sizes
- Installation Techniques
- 10:30—Panel: Semi-Automatic vs. Complete Automatic Systems
- Semi-Automatic Systems
- Complete Automatic Systems
- 10:55—Break
- 11:00—Panel: Green Watering Systems
- The Center-Green System
- The Perimeter System

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MAINTAINING SEASIDE BENT GREENS

Our season begins with a treatment for snow mold control during the fall season. This year it was applied on the 24th day of November at the rate of three (3) oz. of Calo-Clor and six (6) oz. of Tersan per 1000 square feet.

Next corn gluten was applied at the rate of 30 lbs. per 1000 sq. ft. around the 15th of December.

The second application of fungicide is applied as soon as the first snow melts even if there is more winter weather ahead. This program is continued until all the snow has melted and the greens are dry. At this time our first mowing is done. We use the wire brush in front of a greensmower and mow the greens 4 times with the brush on; after that we maintain a cutting height of 3/16th of an inch.

The first application of fertilizer is applied normally the first week of May providing the weather is good. Four (4) applications of 12-6-6 are put on at 2 week intervals at the rate of 5 lbs. per 1000 sq. ft. We then apply 1 lb. Urea 45 percent every ten (10) days until the first Monday after Labor Day. Here again we go back to our spring program and put on 5 lbs. of 12-6-6 per 1000 sq. ft. in order to get three (3) applications on. This brings our total to approximately eleven (11) pounds Nitrogen, three (3) pounds Phosphate; six (6) pounds Potash - per 1000 sq. ft.

Our spray program is started as soon as there are signs of need for it. This year we started the early part of June and continued through the middle of September using 1 oz. of P.M.A.S. and 3 oz. of Thiram per 1000 sq. ft. every ten (10) days until July 10th. At this time we added 2 oz. of Z78 (Zinc) and 1/4 oz. Sulphate of Iron. We continued this every 7 days until September 18th and did not spray again until November 24th.

Our mowing program consisted of mowing 7 days

a week until September 11 and 6 days a week after that until October 1st.

Power spiking started June 12 and was done every Monday, weather permitting, until August 28th.

We airtied greens on June 5th with West Point 1/2 inch thatch spoons two directions; length-ways and cross-ways.

September 18th we Aero thatched 1/2 of all greens; two weeks later we finished the other half of the greens.

Point O' Woods Golf & Country Club, Benton Harbor, Michigan. — Norm Kramer, Supt.

MAINTAINING BLUEGRASS FAIRWAYS

I have looked back 5 years concerning the maintenance practices of my watered bluegrass and must say the word maintenance has meant 4 basic steps; Fertilization, watering, mowing and weed control.

Fertilization, I think, must come first. I say this because I have seen what a regular, amply supplied fertilizer program can do for bluegrass. Beginning with the early fall of 1957 and continuing right through this fall I have religiously applied 500 lbs. per acre of low nitrogen fertilizer every fall and 600 lbs. of high nitrogen every spring. This, to my way of thinking has been the most beneficial move I have ever made at the Aurora Country Club. There is no doubt in my mind that this fertilizing has brought about improvements in the texture of the turf that I feel I cannot get along without. I have to think many times how I would react if I were forgotten or even shorted when it comes time for dinner. I'm quite sure my bluegrass feels the same way.

Now that we've got the turf growing good, it's got to be mowed to keep our golfers happy. My fairway mowers start out every spring cutting at 1-1/4" and stay there all year long. Mowing at this height has helped me in controlling the moving in of many weeds and seems to be keeping the poa from spreading and taking over too greatly. There has been a bare mini-

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mum of complaining from my members about the height of our fairways and as long as this keeps up, both of us will be happy. I keep one, seven gang unit, going continuously all week long, play permitting. The speed of the tractor, to insure a nice smooth cut, is kept at a slow pace at all times. My fairway man does a very nice job of alternating his direction of mowing 4 different ways. Clockwise and counter clockwise, from outside in, striping, and crossing. To eliminate needless wear and tear, our approaches that are narrowed by traps, are cut with a three gang power mower. We have enough scooters roaring around on these approaches, let alone our fairway unit adding to this problem.

The watering of our fairways is held to a bare minimum. By this I mean, no water is put on until they show signs of spot blueing, and even then just enough to snap them back. Through a dry spell the sprinklers are never left on more than 1 hour per setting. More often one half hour is all they get, just enough to keep the top soil moist. I watched grass go out on our fairways this year when the amount of water could not be controlled. This convinced me even more that watering can very definitely do just as much harm as it can good. I have some approaches that to avoid over-watering we hand water them right along with the greens and collars. An approach is probably the most important part of any fairway and certainly not the spot to get too much water.

The one thing we have left now is weed control. Here I have found that if the fertilizing, height of cut, and watering has been cared for properly our weed problem doesn't usually become too severe. Liquid sprays of 24D and 245T applied in the spring when plants are young and tender have controlled our broadleaf weed problem. These sprayings are also keeping clover at a minimum. Lead arsenate, at the rate of 250 pounds per acre, is put on early in the spring. This is done to six fairways a year, on a rotating basis. Spot treating of chick weed as it shows up, seems to be the inexpensive, as well as, effective way to control this weed. The lead is applied by shaking it out of a small salt sack directly to the plant. For good absorption by the plant we do this job early in the mornings when there is dew on the turf.

Carl Hopphan, Aurora Country Club
Prairie at Western, Aurora, Illinois

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