

DECEMBER, 1964

VOL. 18, NO. 6



The Bull Sheet

Official Bulletin

Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents



WARREN BIDWELL
Farewell to a great man
Good Luck in Philadelphia

**DECEMBER MEETING
GLENDALE COUNTRY CLUB
MONDAY, DEC. 7, 1964**

**ANNUAL MEETING
ELECTION OF OFFICERS
AND DIRECTORS**

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

TED WOEHRLE, Editor,
8700 So. Western Avenue
Chicago 20, Illinois

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The President's Message

The Name and The Purpose —

Shakespeare, in one of his masterpieces of literature, penned the oft quoted line—"What's in a Name"?

The Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents —

In golfing circles, this Name has created an image that is visible and revered all across the land from coast to coast — one respected and looked to for leadership at the local level and recognized nationally for having provided men in high office when their services were needed.

Within the realm of this image many of us have basked our professional souls and have partaken fully of the knowledge and associations thereof — to come into full and true meaning of realization that we are a professional group; that our place in the rapidly expanding game of golf has proper recognition by all those other associations and individuals who proclaim interest in the same area of recreation. To have reached this plateau is not enough. Progress never stands still. When it ceases to move forward, it no longer exists.

The Purpose —

"To advance the rights and sciences attendant upon or related to the occupation of greenkeeping, to unite the greenkeepers and golf course superintendents of the Chicago Metropolitan area into a cooperative group for the collection, preservation and dissemination of scientific and practical knowledge and information, thus affecting more efficient and economical maintenance of golf courses and thereby improving and enhancing the individual and collective prestige and efficiency of the members; the creation of an instrumentality of entity of record capable and susceptible of procuring all benefits to the membership both individually and collectively.

The Instrument that was created to carry out The Purpose is The Education Committee. We can retain our professional entity only so long as we keep within full view of all our members and other related groups the full impact of The Purpose. When we become lax and allow the great Midwest to become more social than educational then we can no longer

claim to being a professional organization.

To be absolute in all our convictions is most admirable but not always achievable when associating with others with equally strong intent and purpose. Like it or not, we are living in a world of compromise where, if humanity is to continue to exist upon God's Earth, we must take a look at the other fellow's view point — and, sometimes live with it within a degree. Specifically, when conflict of personalities and the banding together of cliques mushroom so high that we, as an organization of professional men, lose sight of The Purpose; then watch out for the collapse of that splendid professional image, for it will surely come tumbling down around our necks, for the battle that may be won may also lose the war.

The Name is strong in the minds of many. The Purpose is there to uphold and to Build for continued Progress for All. Support and be a part of — The Purpose. Believe in it and Live by it.

Warren Bidwell, President

NOVEMBER MEETING

The November meeting of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents was held at the Silver Lake Country Club on Thursday, Nov. 5, 1964. Dudley Smith was the host Superintendent.

After dinner President Warren Bidwell conducted the Business meeting in which it was decided to have Ed Stewart represent us as the voting delegate at the National Conference at Cleveland. Ed will be representing the largest local in the Country. Now that President Bidwell is leaving the Chicago area we must decide our slate for the National Election during the December meeting.

After the meeting Mr. Ben Warren and his lab technician, Tim Gaskin presented a very interesting and informative program explaining the work being done at the Warren's Turf Nursery. Ben and his staff certainly have been doing an outstanding job in turf research. We as an Association appreciate it very much. Many of their findings are being put to use today in producing more serviceable turf.

11th Annual Fall Clinic

After ten years the Clinic moved back to Medinah Country Club where it was first held in the Fall of 1954. We have come a long way in this annual project. The first few years were devoted to individual subjects for each clinic. One year was spent in soils, another in diseases and still another in grasses. These were all taught by people in that particular field. They were highly successful. In 1957 the Clinic was held at Olympia Fields Country Club. The program was changed to include Superintendents and their various projects. At first the Superintendents were a little weak in their presentations, however, during the past few years the Superintendents all appear to be accomplished speakers. This year was a perfect example. Some of the material presented by the Superintendents was outstanding, they are all to

be congratulated.

Al Johnson and his Educational Committee are to be commended for the outstanding job they did in rounding up this program with all its fine speakers. The subject material was timely and the delivery by the speakers was without fault. Compare this to six or seven years ago and you will agree that we have come a long way.

Attendance as usual consisted of our many visiting Superintendents from adjoining Associations. We had people attending from Wisconsin, Indiana, Iowa, Down state Illinois, Ohio and Michigan. It is always an honor to have these people visit with us.

Jim Holmes of the USGA, Jim Latham of the Milwaukee Sewerage Commission, Dr. Mike Britton of the University of Illinois, kept our program on schedule and added that "professional touch" to the program, as Moderators.

Miss Carol McCue and Mr. Charles Eckstein of the Chicago District Golf Association added a great deal to the program explaining functions of the CDGA.

Our Commercial representatives appearing on the program were finally allowed to discuss their products freely. It was interesting and informative. Mr. David Gill provided us with another look at Golf Course Architecture. He approached his subject with a little different angle. After passing out mimeographed scetches of an imaginary 380 yd. par 4 golf hole, he proceeded to explain how he arrived at the final outcome. It was very interesting indeed.

Our Toastmaster at the Banquet did a tremendous job in conducting the afterdinner program. Of course, Jim Brandt is becoming an expert with such a thing. We were glad to have Andy Bertoni with us to help with the program. Andy is one of these people that can keep an audience laughing. It's a good thing that he stopped when he did because my sides were aching.

Many of those attending remarked, as they were leaving, that they thought this was the finest program yet. Once again, Thanks to Al and his Committee.

Fifth Illinois Turfgrass Conference

December 3, and 4, 1964
Auditorium, Law Building
Urbana, Illinois

You are invited to attend the fifth educational program which is sponsored by the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation and the College of Agriculture of the University of Illinois. The purpose of this program is to provide up-to-date information for those in the turfgrass field.

Program Committee
M. P. Britton
J. D. Butler
F. W. Slife

PROGRAM

Thursday, December 3 — First Session

A.M.

10:00 - 12:00 Noon

Registration

11:00 Illinois Turfgrass Foundation Business Meeting

Ted Woehrle, President

11:30 Lunch

Thursday, December 3 — Second Session

Moderator — Roy Nelson, Homewood, Illinois

P.M.

- 1:15 Welcome Dean K. E. Gardner
1:20 **Important Turf Diseases** M. P. Britton
University of Illinois
1:40 **Water Movement** T. D. Hinesly
University of Illinois
2:15 **Use of Annual Plants** G. M. Foster
University of Illinois
2:35 **Root Development** C. W. Lobenstein
Southern Illinois University

3:00 Break

Moderator — Bob Johnson, Orland Park, Illinois

- 3:15 **Fungicides and Truf Disease Control** J. D. Butler
University of Illinois
3:35 **Maintenance Calendar for Shrubs and Trees** J. B. Gartner
University of Illinois
4:20 **The Golf Course of Tomorrow** W. R. Nelson
University of Illinois
6:30 Banquet — 314 Illini Union

Friday, December 4 — Third Session

Moderator — John Vaughan, Chicago, Illinois

A.M.

- 8:30 **Briefs** Ted Woehrle and others
Chicago, Illinois
8:40 **Weed Control** Dr. F. W. Slife
University of Illinois
9:00 **Plant Diseases — An Illustration** M. J. Healy
University of Illinois
9:25 **Agricultural Chemical Use on the Golf Course** J. L. Holmes
Chicago, Illinois

10:00 Break

Friday, December 4 — Fourth Session

Moderator — Walt Breakman, Lafayette, Illinois

A.M.

- 10:15 **Turfgrass Testing** T. Gaskin
Chicago, Illinois
10:35 **How A Plant Grows** T. K. Hodges
University of Illinois
11:00 **How to Recognize Quality Turfgrass Seed** Dr. Norman Goetze
Oregon State University

11:45 Adjorn

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DECEMBER MEETING

The Annual Election and Business Meeting of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents will be held on Monday, December 7, 1964 at the Glendale Country Club. Clarence Mueller will be our Host. Glendale has always been one of our finest meeting places. Please try to attend. If you can't and you are a voting member please see to it that you use your proxy.

The nominating Committee has presented the following slate. The names appearing were selected from the roster on the basis of past performance of the member.

The selection of Officers and Directors submitted by the Nominating Committee for consideration by the membership at the Annual Meeting for the year 1965 is as follows:

President	E. F. "Al" Johnson
1st Vice President	Anthony Meyer
	Charles Schultz
2nd Vice President	Edward Burke
	Ward Cornwell
Secretary & Treasurer	Roy Nelson
Directors — (Three to be elected for two year terms):	
Edward Braunsky	Walter Hoyt
Tom Burrows	Douglas Jabaay
Gerald Dearie, Jr.	Edwin Wollenberg

Respectfully submitted,
NOMINATING COMMITTEE
 John Ebel, Chairman
 Emil Cassier
 Don Gerber
 Ray Gerber
 Ted Woehrl

NOTE: (As a point of information) All Class A and B members are entitled to vote, and all offices are open to nominations from the floor.

CHIT CHAT

During a recent visit to the Southwest I attended a meeting of the Cactus and Pine Golf Course Superintendents Association. Many of the Superintendents are old friends of the Chicago Superintendents. Ex-National President Harold Stadola of the Tucson Country Club sends his regards to the boys "back home". Art Snyder of Paradise Valley Country Club and his son Jim also send their regards as well as Jack Maurer, formerly of the Kankakee Elks Country Club. Jack is presently working at Paradise Valley. The meeting was held at the beautiful Mountain Shadows Country Club. This club was recently featured on the cover of "Golf World".

The Stork has arrived at the homes of Mr. and Mrs. Dick Trevarthan and Mr. and Mrs. Don Thiesfield delivering baby boys to both families. Dick is Superintendent at Prestwick Country Club and Don is at the Evergreen Country Club.

Frank Dinelli is building seven new holes at Northmoor Country Club. This has been quite an undertaking. Much of the area used was in dense woods.

Several Clubs are installing new water systems.

Edgewood Valley Country Club, Prestwick Country Club and Flossmoor Country Club have almost finished their installations.

Several of our members have been in and out of the hospital lately and we hope and wish them speedy recovery. Several of these were Mr. Franklin Kahn and his son Hugh. Ray Didier and Domonic Grotti have been under the weather too.

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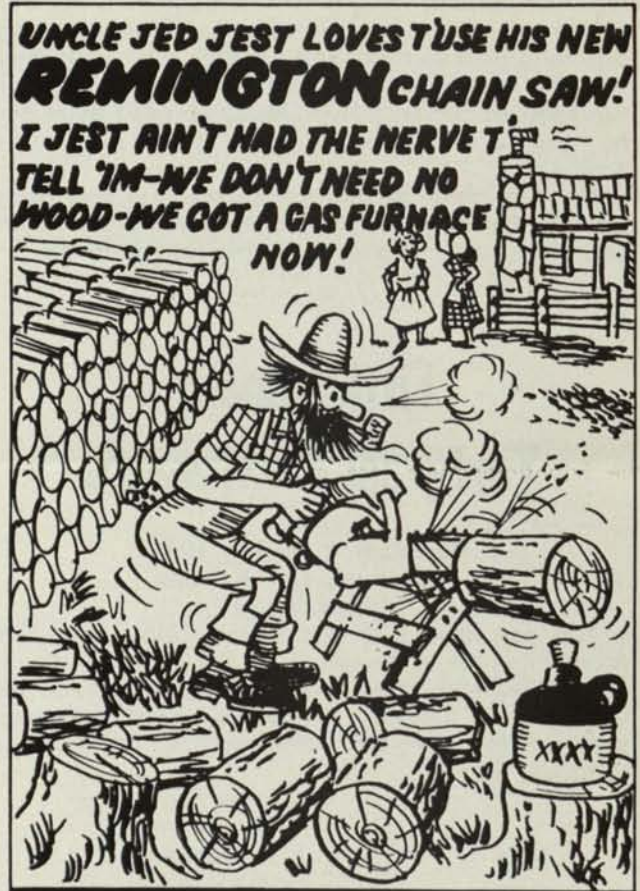
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Jack-Of-All-Trades; Master-Of-None

By William Sell

Port Washington Country Club

As I was preparing this paper on Jack-Of-All-Trades; Master-of-None, I wondered what the text should be about. After making a few notes it was amazing, and even a little amusing, the number of professional skills, and trades, that we as Golf Course Superintendents are expected to master. Of course you realize that this is utterly impossible. Therefore, I believe the Jack-Of-All-Trades Master-Of-None, can be interpreted to mean Golf Course Superintendents.

For the most part, I believe our jobs can be classified as Agronomists. I assume a statement such as this will make the Agronomists think—WHAT'S THIS CHARACTER TRYING TO DO—DEGRADE US!—not in the least, for that is the farthest thing from my mind. Allow me to proceed with my line of thought and perhaps you'll agree with me.

We know our clubs expect the course to be maintained in top condition, and when this is done, the Golfers score well—the cash registers in the pro-shop and the bar room, are ringing loud and clear, the management no longer considers us as a superintendent, but perhaps as the world's best Agronomist—or even better than that—as a genius—but—when we have a little trouble or a lot of trouble, the golf scores go up—for one reason or another—and the cash registers have quieted down, we are no longer considered as a genius—or the world's best Agronomist—or even a superintendent—that's when we become just a plain old bum.

At times such as this we don't call for the Jack-Of-All-Trades—we call for the master—The Professional Agronomist, such as O. J. Noer, Charlie Wilson, and Jim Latham. The Agronomist not only assists us in the production of the fine turf, but also in the treatment of the soil—as in Pathology—Entomology and many other facets of maintaining our course.

When entering the grounds of the country clubs in Wisconsin, it is interesting to note, that most of the Superintendents, are more the Master than the Jack in Floriculture. For he knows that the ornamental flowering plants brighten the area and their colors do much in landscaping it. It is easily noticeable that he has taken into consideration the flowering season of each plant, so that there will be blossoms throughout the entire golfing season. Most golfers enjoy the beauty of flowers. Usually the ladies are the most ardent admirers.

Now for the trades—Mechanics—Carpentry—Plumbers and many Other—

As mechanics we are expected to have the knowledge and ability to properly repair our equipment, and I'm certain that all of us do. Especially with the mowers and the smaller motorized equipment. Many superintendents have the ability to perform the major repairs on the larger equipment—namely the tractors and trucks.

A number of years ago I had the unfortunate experience of the transfer case on our jeep to break down. I didn't think this job would be difficult, so my assistant and myself removed it from the jeep, dis-

mantled it, and after getting the necessary replacement gears, began to reassemble the gears and pins into the transfer case. After struggling with it a couple of hours, I decided the "Jacks" couldn't do it, so we took it to the master, at one of the local automotive garages.

We're carpenters to the extent of remodeling our work shop, or adding onto it, and being called into the clubhouse to build storage cabinets, shelves or whatever it may be.

On the course we construct concession stands, rain shelters and bridges. When we build the bridges, the profession of the civil engineer enters the picture. To design and construct the bridges in such a manner to absorb the stress and strain of the traffic. No doubt most of the bridges will be for golf cart traffic, but will be built to withhold the weight of a ten-ton truck.

Plumbers—certainly all of us have repaired, or added to our irrigation systems. If you have a system like I have it's repaired every spring. For the farm plow that was used to dig the trench for our line must have been here before Christopher Columbus—and the men that installed the pipe must have been on the Santa Maria with Columbus.

In the past number of years many of you have installed new irrigation systems and I am certain that there hasn't been one installed following the exact blueprint of the irrigation specialist.

The next subject has always been a rather humorous one to me—the weather forecaster. I'm sure that this has happened to all of you many times. On the course or in the clubhouse area a golfer speaks to you about the condition of the course, and finally gets around to the weather, how dry it is and how much a good rain would help. Suddenly he would ask you, "Do you think it'll rain"? Just like you're supposed to be another Bill Carlson. Perhaps you come up with something like—My arthritis has been acting up, or the old war wound has been bothering me—we all know these are always sure signs of rain. If it does rain you're a better forcaster than Carlson.

When buying equipment and supplies a lot of thought is given to what type or brand is best suited for each individual needs. Maybe equipment more so than supplies. I feel that our clubs put a lot of faith in our judgement to purchase the best equipment at the best prices possible. In this category we could be purchasing agents.

The changes made by the superintendent were for logical reasons and will help him to maintain a better course—much easier—in the years ahead. Perhaps we are master plumbers, but jacks of the irrigation specialists.

Electricians—many superintendents are qualified to be master of this trade—I'm strictly a jack—for the electricity is hot. So I am a firm believer in having the master do all this type of work.

Painters—perhaps this trade is one of the most forgotten of all. Certainly our equipment—tee benches, ball washers, buildings and bridges are painted, and at many clubs the maintenance crews are expected and do paint, the interior and exteriors of the clubhouse, and do a masterful job.

Those of you that are not required to perform such duties, or any duties connected with the clubhouse are extremely fortunate.

In regards to record keeping and communications within our clubs, I imagine we all are jacks compared to superintendents in other areas.

I realize that many clubs don't want, or feel they don't need our reports and communication. If the clubs would accept our reports it would be very beneficial to the superintendent in making the Board of Directors realize the importance of his request for added equipment and materials.

I feel the present method I use for my records are adequate. In the event I am called upon to give a report on labor, materials or whatever it may be, I am able to give an itemized report—if so requested—in a very short time. I don't mean to imply that my method is the best, or even one of the best, but it fully covers my needs for the present time.

I remember a speaker at one of our national meetings saying, that each superintendent should have a secretary—if she were to keep the records and take care of the communications—or if he had something else in mind. . .

We as superintendents have a major responsibility in the field of education. The first and perhaps most important is to educate ourselves. We do this by attending conferences, like the one we have here today—The National Conference, and our local association meetings. Also by reading and studying the golf reporter, Golfdom, and other golf course management publications.

Dr. Love has often stated—the man who knows how will always have a job, but the man who knows how and why will be his boss. We get these "whys" by attending these meetings and studying these publications, also during the bull sessions, be it in the hallways after the conference, or at the bar while enjoying some liquid refreshment.

Not only by the aforementioned ways do we have the possibilities of acquiring knowledge, but also while playing golf at other courses. While hacking around this other course we are able to notice the things that that superintendent is doing, or has done, that may be applicable to our own course.

Education is a continuous process, you can be living, and yet be dead. For when your desire to learn has stopped—You're Dead.

The founder of the Winter School for Turf Managers at the University of Massachusetts, Professor L. S. Dickinson, now retired, so very aptly put it, "When a man thinks that he is ripe in knowledge, he starts to rot from lack of growth."

Another responsibility is to our employees. We are aware that when assigning duties we should do so in the manner that they are understood, and create a relationship with each employee assuring them to feel free to discuss with us any problems that may arise from these duties.

Experience has taught me, that some are brilliant learners, and it takes others longer to learn.

In selecting summer help many times it is advantageous to the superintendent to hire boys that are sophomores in high school. This enables him to have after school help and the same seasonal help for 2 or 3 seasons.

When one of our employees shows an interest in golf course management we should encourage him to further his education in turf, by attending our universities.

When we are asked by the universities to accept a turf grass student for summer placement we should do so. In order that this student get the necessary field practice or training in becoming a superintendent.

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It has been said, "practice makes perfect," I don't agree. I like to think that these are different kinds of practice and all accomplish the same end results, as long as they are the proper practices. Therefore, I would like to say, "The proper practice is the most important single element in acquiring skill."

It is also necessary to educate the owner, Board of Directors and other department heads in our operating practices, so that all department function as a successful unit. For it is very disturbing in budgeting our time, to be called into other departments, unless it is an extreme emergency.

Perhaps the most difficult task is educating the responsible department head in the vital importance

of the club financing the superintendent to our national conferences. Little do they realize the amount of knowledge that is acquired and the amazing results when this knowledge is put into practice.

We must also realize that while we are educating them, they are doing for us the same thing.

The all important subject of public relations—Are we public relations jacks or masters? I would say that most of us are the master of the jacks—if that makes any sense.

What is public relations? I have heard it is said to be a "science, art, ritual selling yourself, personal rating, or do unto others as you would have others do unto you." I doubt if anyone has ever gone wrong following that rule.

Dr. Gene Nutter, Executive Director of the Golf Course Superintendents of America, once stated, "A superintendent is a technician first, and a public relations expert second, if at all.

Perhaps we, the golf course superintendents of Wisconsin, have failed in public relations more than anything else. In failing I mean by not heeding the advice of the masters by enrolling in a speech course, such as the Dale Carnegie, of the Toastmaster International Club.

For the past month and especially the last 10 minutes I wish I had enrolled in one of these.

A course such as these would enable us to improve our relations, not only with our clubs, but within the communities in which we live. I don't recall that a fellow superintendent has told me that he has been asked to give a speech to some organized group—as a Men's Club, Ladies Aid Society, Christian Mothers, or whatever the name may be. Although I recall a few years ago a number of superintendents were on this program and did a commendable job.

(Continued next month)

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