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The Bull Sheet

Official Bulletin

Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents



WARREN BIDWELL
1964
PRESIDENT MAGCS

NEXT MEETING

TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 1964

RIVER FOREST COUNTRY CLUB

ON TO PHILADELPHIA

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

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Every new President coming into office brings with him his own new ray of hope for improving the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents. As he moved up through the chairs during the preceeding years he has, perhaps, become aware of certain short comings or has originated new ideas which he considers worthy of trial.

At the organization meeting held recently, your newly elected Officers and Board of Directors set about to distribute the work load of the various Chairmanships.

With a large and ever increasing, active membership, the Chairman of the Golf Committee has found himself devoting about eight hours toward the various activities of the Committee each meeting day of the playing season. In many cases this deprived him of the opportunity of playing with his fellow members. And, like many of the other jobs in the Association, the Chairman gets few pats on the back for his efforts but too often has to listen to complaints from those who are inconsiderate and would just as soon treat him like a hired hand. Therefore, it has become increasingly difficult to find someone to accept the job.

Our new Board member, Kenny Lapp, has kindly considered the situation and has accepted the Chairmanship of the Golf Committee. This is with the full understanding that he is to choose two assistants from the membership who not only wish to make golf interesting for the superintendent but are willing to pitch in and help make the workings of the Committee a success.

The usual amount of money for golf prizes has been allocated. However, there is one change relative to handing out prizes that should be noted. The winner of a golfing event must be present to receive his prize at the time they are handed out. This is in direct response and full acknowledgement of the many justified complaints concerning this matter.

One of the toughest jobs in the Association is that of Chairman of Arrangements. There have been times when we thought we would be holding our next meeting in a restaurant or motel. Yes, scheduling meetings have been that tight at times. In an

Association the size of the Midwest there should be no problems of this nature. When was the last time you were Host to a Monthly Meeting of the Midwest Association? If it is more than three years then you are long overdue.

Give Bill Stupple and Adolph Bertucci your support. They are the Joint Chairmen of the Arrangements Committee. There are about three clubs in the Chicago District where we have standing invitation. But don't forget, there are the usual twelve months in the year. They are working on the problem now. Surprise them by offering.

While on the subject of attending meetings sponsored by our Association at a fellow superintendent's club, I believe it important that we remind ourselves of a few important facts. That we are truly playing the role of the guest is beyond question when we play golf, have dinner and have a meeting in the club of his employer. This carries far reaching obligations on our part. As an individual we represent the club or firm who employs us. As a superintendent, we wish to enhance the profession we are proud to be a part of and to leave with the feeling that we will always be welcome to return in the future.

If we are to accept the role of being the guest in any fellow member's club, then we should be gentlemen at all times by abiding by the same rules that apply to the club membership. With few exceptions, this means that Coat and Tie should be worn in the dining room during our dinner hour. If we accept anything less from our Association members we can expect to be downgraded by those of the golfing world whose club facilities we enjoy each month.

The other difficult Chairmanship of our Association is that of Education. What may be basic education to a younger member could very well be a bit of boring information learned a long time ago by one of more mature years. Whatever the situation, never let us be dis-respectful to an invited guest speaker. We may not like what he has to say or even the way he smokes his pipe but let us respect his appearance before us. After all he has been invited by our Education Committee and they represent us, the membership.

Al Johnson and Tony Meyer have taken on the all important duty of heading up the Education Committee. They are experienced and understanding men, wise in the ways of our membership and our education needs. If you have an idea, go talk to them privately. Before stepping down as Chairman of this Committee, a suggestion came from a number of our members expressing a desire to have the question box sessions revived for the months of July and August. The feeling being that many of the fellows like to air their problems and hear others do so in open forum during these trouble months. If this should be your wish also, let it be known to Al or Tony. The important thing is this; To have a successful question box session, one that is lively, full of questions and everyone participating, the questions must come forth from the membership and be submitted in time to get consideration. Such a session can be a real Hootenanny if we will give it some thought and submit the questions and help answer those of others. Let's work at it.

While we have a large membership, we must also be aware that there are many superintendents on golf courses in the Chicago District who are not mem-

bers of our association. This situation can exist for only two valid reasons. Either the non-member superintendent does not feel the need for associating with our organization or he is reluctant to make an application because he has not been invited. Which is it? We intend to find out. If the former reason is the prevailing one, maybe we, as an organization, should do a bit of self-examination. Does the Midwest Association fulfill the needs of those in the maintenance phase of the golfing world which is growing larger year by year? Have we become so self satisfied with our lot that we no longer feel the need to dig for new ideas? Are we resting on our laurels?

In recognition of the need to make a search for some of these answers and in further recognition of the fact that the Chicago District is much too large an area for any one man to cover, three Board Members have agreed to divide up the huge area and get started on 'Project Membership'. This will be a continuing effort, one in which all classes of membership can participate. We will be counting rather heavily on our Class E Members who get around and 'beat the bushes'. If you know of a non-member superintendent in the Southern area of the Chicago District tell Dudley Smith about it. If in the West or Central area tell Tony Meyer and if in the North or Northwest area, then John Ebel should hear from you. These three Board Members have equal status as Chairman of Membership. Give them the benefit of your information on non-member superintendents in the area.

At the regular meeting in January, May and August, special recognition will be given our new members. They will gather at a special table, properly identified, and will be introduced after the dinner hour by one of the above Chairman who will act as their Host for the evening. If they have talents that can be put to work in association affairs we will know about it before the evening is over.

The function and procedure of the Benevolence Committee will be published MONTHLY in The Bull Sheet. Al Johnson will handle this phase of our work. This will be set up to give proper and timely consideration to our members or the immediate family when sickness or sorrow occur.

Walter Fuchs, as Chairman of the Entertainment Committee, will abide by the membership wishes and will schedule only one dance for next fall. This is one project that needs total support of all our members. And, the nice part about it; you can have loads of fun, a nice meal and an evening of fellowship.

In our Midwest Association at the present time we have about six superintendents out of work. This should be the concern of each and every member.

If you know of a job opening or are in need of a job, get this information into the hands of Bill Stuppel and Adolph Bertucci. They will be heading up the Committee on Placement and Consulting.

It is generally understood that, at one time, the Consulting Committee did a timely and excellent service for those members who had need of advice from qualified turf men. Very simply it works like this. If I am having trouble with my 3rd green on the North Course and feel that I have exhausted my ideas on the nature of the problem and believe that a Consultation with some fellow superintendents is desirable, I would call Bill and Adolph to request a

visit from the Consulting Committee. Such a request will only be honored when it comes from the superintendent—no one else. This can, once again, become an important piece of service to our membership. During the term of office of the present Officers and Board of Directors, this Committee will function within the framework of the highest of professional ethics. This is my personal pledge.

The Bull Sheet will remain in the capable hands of our fine Editor, Ted Woehrl. He will continue his double duty as Publicity Chairman and will get timely news items into the leading papers when the occasion presents itself.

May the Year of 1964 bring you Good Health, Good Luck and Good Fortune.

Warren Bidwell, President

THE MOLE

Howard Baerwald started a new green the last day of November. Howard knows that he is taking quite a gamble on the weather but believes that he can get it under sod within something less than two weeks and that it will be playable this spring. C. D. Wagstaff is supervising the design and they sure were working fast. Hope the snow keeps away till everyone gets done.

The unusual weather seems to have tempted everyone to try to do just one more project. Ed Stewart put in a few more valves in the green he was completing, Don Strand of Westmoorland is working on a second new lake and Bert Rost is almost thru with the new one at Butterfield. Walter Fuchs at Glen Eagles put in some 2000 ft. of new waterline and is working against snowfall on several tees, George Dahlman is rejoicing in the splendid stand of grass that will go into the winter on the last new course. It has been quite a summer for George.

Time to remember that the time is fast approaching that this is a great job. Remember how often we told ourselves during heat and humidity of the past summer that "it is a great job in the winter". Many of the bull sessions at the Olympia conference centered on how many gallons of water were used during the past summer, and where did it come from. The amount is amazing.

In the midst of fall work, vacation plans crop up - Walter Hoyt and his wife are to drive a new Ford to Florida for the last half of January and most of February; Al and Susie Johnson of Park Ridge C.C. will take the Daughters home for Christmas in New Orleans; Ed Stewart and family will take off for Florida before Christmas; Marv Grunning and his family want to go but have not quite decided where; Bill Leith of Elgin C.C. and his wife will see the national show for their vacation.

Amos Lapp of St. Andrews C.C. rebuilt and built 18 tees and a putting green this fall. Some of the tees are 150 feet long. He used c15 on the putting green.

The story of the month was the return of Gerald Dearie Jr from his 3 year stay with his family in Mexico. He and all the family talk Spanish as fast as natives. They loved their stay, but were sure glad to get back. When Gerald was asked what he liked best when he did get back he said "a good old U. S. hamburger". The kids were most happy to be in school with English speaking friends. The happiest to have them back was their daddy and

grandfather, Gerald Sr. He missed them all.

Julius Albaugh who is with Don Strand at Westmoorland, is the father of an eight pound 10 ounce boy born late in November. Julius came from Indianapolis, graduated from Purdue in AG, majoring in turf, under Bill Daniels and is now assistant to Don.

The University of Illinois now has professional men, four graduate students plus adequate labor on the turf staff. The enthusiasm of the combined staff promises the University will gain national leadership in turf in the near future. The short course comes 1st week in December.

THE MOLE,



AL JOHNSON
1st Vice-President

NEW POLICY SET FOR BENEVOLENCE COMMITTEE

Because of the difficulty involved in spreading the news of members that are sick or have died the Board has adopted a new policy. In the future all members are requested to call the Chairman of the Benevolence Committee, "Al" Johnson, as soon as they have heard news of one of our members, or of the immediate family of one of our members, being hospitalized or passing away. The telephone number to call is TA 5-3809, TA 3-8682 or TA 3-3101. Al will in turn do what is appropriate for the occasion.

The success of this new program depends on all of us cooperating with Al in this endeavor. This is the only way possible to give all members the same service.

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NEW COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN APPOINTED

During a recent Board Meeting of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents, held at the Woodridge Country Club, President Warren Bidwell appointed the following men as chairmen of the various Committees:

Education and Research — "Al" Johnson and Tony Meyer

Arrangements — Wm. Stuppel and Adolph Bertucci

Entertainment — Walter Fuchs

Golf — Kenneth Lapp

Membership — John Ebel (North)
Tony Meyer (West)
Dudley Smith (South)

Consulting and Placement — Adolph Bertucci and Wm. Stuppel

Publicity — Ted Woehrle

By-Laws — John Ebel

Benevolence — "Al" Johnson

Attendance — Ted Woehrle, Bill Saielli

ATTENDANCE AT ALL MAGCS FUNCTIONS TO BE TAKEN

A new Committee has been appointed by the Board for this year to note the attendance of all our functions. Ted Woehrle and Bill Saielli have been appointed Co-Chairmen of this Committee and they will be responsible for recording attendance. This is being done to help control the attendance as stated in our policy set last year requiring that a guest make only one appearance per year.

In cases of question a member will be required to show his membership card. Be prepared to show your card upon request. This committee will be stationed at the first tee during golf events and at the entrance to the dining room during dinner.

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DON STEWERT PASSES AWAY

Don Stewert, Superintendent of Brookwood Country Club, passed away on Thursday morning, January 2, 1964, after a lingering illness.

He was Superintendent at the Brookwood Country Club for the past six years. Prior to this time he was Superintendent of the Joliet Country Club for three years.

Don was the son of the late Peter Stewert, one of our founders, both in the local Association as well as the National. He received his early training at the Butterfield Country Club under the direction of his father.

Don was a member of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents for the past ten years during which time he served on the Board of Directors for two years.

He is survived by his wife Jane and a brother Ed Stewert, Superintendent of the River Forest Country Club, and a sister.

"Time brings us a change and leaves us fretting;

We weep when every comrade goes —
Perhaps too much — perhaps forgetting
That over yonder there are those
To whom he comes and whom he knows."

All of the Midwest Association join in extending deepest sympathy to brother Ed Stewert and to Donald's wife, Jane, as well as the other members of the family.

GLEN ELLYN TO BUILD NEW COURSE

The Village of Glen Ellyn has recently voted \$1.5 million in Bonds for the Construction of a new Golf Course which will be completed and ready for play during the fall of 1965. It will be located South of Roosevelt Road and West of Park Blvd.

David Gill is the Architect and Walter E. Deuchler and Associates of Aurora are the Engineers.

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SUMMARIZATION OF 11th ANNUAL TURF CLINIC

November 19 - 20, 1963

Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents Olympia Fields Country Club Olympia Fields, Illinois

By James L. Holmes, USGA Green Section

Proceedings were commenced when Mr. John Ebel, Superintendent at Biltmore Country Club and president of Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents, welcomed those attending, approximately 125 strong. After a few timely remarks, Mr. Ebel introduced Dr. Gene Nutter, Executive Secretary of the Golf Course Superintendents Association, who delivered the keynote speech. Gene's talk was entitled "Progress and Change" and was certainly a stoker speech (or one which "fires you up"). He dwelled on our advancing population and economy since World War II and the impact these are having in golf. Many new and "top" golf course superintendents are in demand and an increasing number will be needed in the future. Also, skilled golf course labor is needed and is essential to the smooth operation of a country club. He went on to say that the Chicago area is slightly above average in the growth, personal income and net and gross income of industry. The extended golf picture in the Chicago area is excellent.

Dr. Nutter presided over a panel entitled, **What I have Learned About.** Panel discussion was as follows:

1. "Aerification" — Norman W. Kramer, Golf Course Superintendent, Point O'Woods Country Club, Benton Harbor, Michigan.

Mr. Kramer presented his complete program of green and fairway aerification and why he chooses to follow such a program. He has found that machines which make vertical grooves to a depth of 1/4 to 1/2 inch into the soil are superior for aerifying and thatch removal. However, he continues to use a puncher type aerator at least once during the season. Both types of aerification, but especially the soil slitting type, prepare excellent seed beds. Norman commented that it is foolhardy to overseed unless overseeding is preceded with vigorous aerification. Winter damage has been severe at Point O'Woods during past seasons. Therefore, Mr. Kramer aerified late this fall in an effort to determine if this may reduce winterkill.

Norman commented that at the present time he has completely worn-out two drum type fairway aerifiers and is well on the way with the third. For the past two seasons he also has used the slitter or

JOB OPENING

The Edgewood Valley Country Club of La Grange, Illinois, has notified us that they are seeking a Superintendent.

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groover type machine on fairways and reported that he would continue to use this machine. Here again the grooving machine prepares an excellent seed bed. Highland bentgrass has been the predominant turf on his course and he wishes to incorporate Sea-side Bentgrass. To date this operation has been successful. He is grooving to a depth of 1/4 to 1/2 inch and removing mat and thatch with a commercial sweeper. Norman finished his talk by commenting that, "adequate and proper aerification which means the use of proper tools is absolutely essential in my operation."

2. "Top Dressing Application" — Tony Meyer, Golf Course Superintendent, Woodridge Country Club.

Tony gave a complete run-down on his topdressing operation which is as follows. Greens are first aerated with a plugger type machine and the plugs removed. Calcined clay is then applied at a rate of 150 pounds per 1000 square feet. This material is "drug-in". Then a topdressing mixture of 25% sand, 25% humus and 50% native soil is applied at the rate of 300 pounds per 1000 square feet. A power cart is used to drag in all topdressing materials. Mr. Meyer commented that through the use of a power cart and a power topdressing machine, labor and time were materially reduced.

Doug Jabaay, Golf Course Superintendent of Cress Creek Country Club, followed Mr. Meyer on the topdressing subject with a summarization of the various topdressing programs he had followed while developing his new course. Of special interest was the fact that stolons which were not topdressed but rather forced into existing soil with a Meeker harrow developed suitable putting surfaces as much as three months before topdressed areas developed. Doug said he planned to experiment with this concept further in order to determine if applications of topdressing actually retarded or slowed-down development of turf. Mr. Jabaay went on to explain that through the use of the power topdressing machines he had reduced labor required to topdress a 6,000 square foot green from 19 1/4 man hours by hand labor to 1 man hour. Doug commented that at no time would he apply more than 1 cubic yard of topdressing material per 1000 square feet and normally preferred to apply from 1/2 to 3/4 cubic yards per 1000 square feet.

(Continued next month)

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