

NOVEMBER, 1965

VOL. 19, NO. 5



The Bull Sheet

Official Bulletin

Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents

**ANNUAL
MEETING**

**DECEMBER MEETING
MONDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1965
BRAE LOCH COUNTRY CLUB**

— **DINNER** —

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS
AND DIRECTORS**

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

DOUG JABAAY, Editor
P. O. Box 305
Naperville, Ill. 60540

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Walter Fuchs	Gerald Dearie

The President's Message

It was a pleasure to attend the new headquarters office open house of the G.C.S.A.A. in Des Plaines, Illinois on October 21st. In behalf of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents and myself, I would like to thank Ben Chlevin, executive director, and his fine staff for the sincere hospitality shown the Midwest Superintendents and many guests in attendance. It is hard to realize the many changes that have been made since the office was located in St. Charles, Illinois in the 1940's and '50's.

This is the time of the year that superintendents reflect on the past and make plans for future improvements on their courses. Many superintendents are rebuilding in one way or another to establish more desirable playing conditions and correct the faulty conditions of the past.

In your planning take time out to attend the annual turf clinic at Medinah Country Club, November 16th and 17th. You will find a most interesting program has been arranged for your attendance. Your support of a large attendance would be gratifying to the educational committee for their fine work in arranging the annual program.

Al Johnson, President

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REPORT ON THE DINNER DANCE

Edgewood Valley Country Club's Superintendent Harold Frederickson and his lovely wife Sue were the Host and Hostess to 140 members, wives and friends, at our Fall Dinner Dance. Mr. C. B. Bradshaw, manager, and his staff turned out a splendid meal to start the evening off.

Walter Fuchs, the able chairman of our dance committee, again did a job that was outstanding, but we have to give credit to his wife Wilhemina for all the help that made this a very successful evening.

For all the door prizes that were given out, the following people were responsible:

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The winners of the door prizes are:

Mr. Julius Albaugh	Mr. Norman Kramer
Mr. Peter Bild	Mrs. Nels Nelson
Mrs. Wilma Bild	Mr. Richard Nugent
Mr. Don Brausks	Mrs. Rose Miller
Mr. Irv Casper	Mrs. Elsie Murrall
Mr. John Coghill, Jr.	Mrs. Joe Reed
Mrs. Gail Druzisky	Mr. Pat Ryan
Mrs. Bonnie Fuchs	Mr. Frank Ross
Mr. Walter Fuchs, Jr.	Mrs. Lucille Salielli
Mrs. Wilhemina Fuchs	Mrs. Barbara Schneider
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PAUL W. BURDETT PASSES AWAY

Paul Burdett, Jr. passed away on Friday, October 8th, 1965. He was part of the sales force of the Paul E. Burdett Company. He grew up in the business with his Dad and brother Jim. Even though most of his time was spent on the North Side we all know him as part of a team. We will miss him. The members of the Midwest Association join in extending our deepest sympathy to the family.

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MINIMIZING WINTER DAMAGE

Dr. W. H. Daniel

Department of Agronomy, Purdue University

Turf managers in Chicago have long known the problems of wintertime turfgrass damage, and they are as experienced as any group in the ideas and practices for modification. Perhaps a review would be helpful.

I recall in the spring of 1960 when extensive damage was observed at one golf course, slight damage was observed at the neighboring golf course and most others in the vicinity were undamaged. The next spring two golf courses in Massachusetts reported severe damage, but those greens facing west had less damage. Two years later severe damage was experienced on numerous golf courses in the Chicago area, but by then the cause was better understood.

Unfortunately damage was widespread in the northeast in the spring of 1964. The observation at Mount Pleasant, Mass. three years before gave the clue.

Excellent work by Jim Beard at Michigan State attempts to accomplish difficult work, i.e., to duplicate unusual weather circumstances. What is meant by unusual?

Turf can be damaged when the rootzone freezes while wet, then snow and ice freeze above the plant; thus, under these conditions the plant cannot get needed air exchange from the ground, or from above it — takes both conditions to damage. Interpretation?

Should the weather on your golf course begin with rain and sleet, with temperatures dropping so the rain freezes, this turns to sleet and snow which is followed by sunny, cold weather which seals over the snow, then suspect trouble. If the weather persists for more than ten days and remedial work possible — scraping — punching — would be desired.

Good snowmold control, fall aeration, healthy turf, good surface drainage, all help to reduce the problem. Fortunately bluegrass is most tolerant, bentgrass is medium, and Poa annua is least tolerant to winter damage. Fortunately such conditions occur infrequently.

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13th ANNUAL TURF CLINIC PROGRAM

"Yesterday, Today . . . and Tomorrow"
Tuesday, November 16, 1965

A.M.

8:30 Registration —
Richard Trevarthan, Howard Baerwald
Edward Braunsky, Al Johnson, President

9:30 Call to Order —
Welcome to Medinah — Gerald Dearie, Jr.,
Host Superintendent

9:45 Keynote Address —
"The National Association Moves to Des
Plaines" — Ben Chlevin

Session I

Moderator — Charles Wilson
10:15 Landscaping with a Purpose —
Thomas Di Guido

10:30 Welcome Neighbors —
Central Illinois - James Brandt
Wisconsin - Charles Shiley
Michiana - William Krafft
Iowa - Harold Kerr
Michigan - Andrew Bertoni

11:15 Fungicide Compatibility —
Dr. Mike Britton

11:30 Crabgrass Eradication —
Donald Maske

11:50 Summary and Questions —
12:00 Lunch

Session II

P.M.

Moderator — Dr. Mike Britton
1:30 "Removing Impurities from Irrigation Water"
Arch Smith

2:00 "Effects of Salt Products on Turf" —
Charles Wilson

2:45 Storm Damage in 1965 —
Oscar Miles

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- 3:00 From Dreams to Divots —
Dick Nugent
- 3:30 "Observations Along the Road" —
James Holmes
- 4:00 Summary and Questions
- 5:00 Cocktail Hour
- 6:30 Banquet

Toastmaster — Andrew Bertoni

Wednesday, November 17, 1965

A.M.

- 9:00 Call to Order —

Session III

Moderator — Dr. Bill Daniels

- 9:15 "Progress with Dutch Elm Disease" —
Dr. Webster Crowley
- 9:45 The LAW and Golf Course Labor —
Harriette Wolf
- 10:25 The Western Golf Hour —
The Western Golf Association —
Marshall Dann
- "Preparing the 'Point' for two Western
Amateurs" —
Norman Kramer
- "The 1965 Womens Western at Beverly" —
Ted Woehrle
- "Memories of the '64, '65 Western Opens at
Tam O'Shanter" —
Arthur Mueller
- "Preparing the 'Monster' for 1966" —
Gerald Dearie, Jr.

- 11:30 "Whatever Happened to Joe College?" —
Dr. Eliot Roberts, Dr. Bill Daniels

- 11:50 Summary and Questions

- 12:00 Lunch

Session IV

Moderator — Dr. Eliot Roberts

- 1:30 "Hail, to the Ladies" —
Harold Fredrickson
- 1:45 Swimming Pool Maintenance —
Douglas Jabaay
- 2:00 "What I Expect to See Tomorrow" —
Joseph Doan, Thomas Walsh, Paul Voykin
- 3:00 "My Automatic Irrigation System" —
Robert Feindt
- 3:20 "Is Automatic Irrigation Practical in the
Midwest?"
C. E. 'Scotty' Stewart
- 3:50 Tips for Turf in Trying Times —
L. R. 'Bob' Shields
- 4:15 Summary and Questions
Close the Clinic

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The Annual Fall Outing of the Managers and Superintendents, held at Woodmar Country Club, once again turned out to be as successful as was anticipated. Quite a number played golf and a few gin games were going in the lounge. Mr. Ed. Kocur gave us a wonderful steak dinner with all the trimmings.

Our speakers were brief and to the point. Joe Doan, Editor of the Golf Course Reporter, told about the plans coming up for the magazine. Ralph Peterson and John Chovanec, of the CDGA, gave us some idea of what was involved in setting up a tournament.

The Blind Bogey winners were conspicuously toward the superintendents side! So looks like the hosts (Supt.) next year will have to reciprocate. All in all, everyone had a good time.

No. 1: L. to R. are Bob Williams, superintendent of Bob O'Link G.C., Bob Shields, GCSAA president from Woodmont C.C., Rockville, Md., Col. Harry Eckhoff, director of the National Golf Foundation and Frank Dinelli, superintendent of Northmoor C.C.

No. 2: L. to R. El Johnson, president of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents, Vince Crump, manager of Butterfield C.C, Ben Waskow, manager of Cress Creek C.C. and John Jones, manager of River Forest G.C. and president of the Chicago Club Managers Association.

No. 3: L. to R. Robert Dugreid, Roseman Corp., Joseph Dinelli, North Shore C.C., — ?

No. 4: William Krafft, Valparaiso C.C., Dudley Smith, Silver Lake Golf Club, Paul Voykin, Briarwood C.C. Darline Gericke, secretary to Willard Titlow.

No. 5: L. to R. standing: Doug Jabaay, superintendent Cress Creek C.C., Jim Holmes, midwestern agronomist of the United States Golf Association, Jim Brandt, superintendent of Danville C.C. and Ted Woehrle, superintendent of Beverly C.C. Seated is Bob Shields.

No. 6: L. to R. Ralph Peterson, Secretary CDGA, Adolph Bertucci, superintendent of Lake Shore C.C.

No. 7: Foreground, Clifford Domin, president of Medinah C.C., Carlton Blunt.

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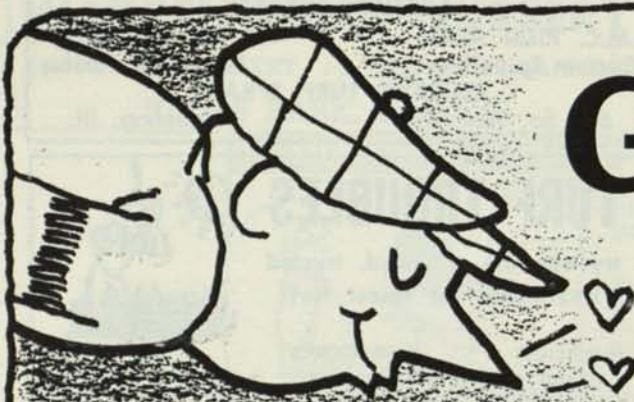
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SCENES FROM THE NEW HEADQUARTERS of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, located at the O'Hare office center in Des Plaines.

More than 200 golf celebrities attended the reception as the GCSAA celebrated its move from Jacksonville, Fla. to be centrally located to serve its 2200 members, all qualified golf course superintendents who annually supervise 250,000 acres in fairways, tees and greens with budgets totalling more than 225 million dollars.



SOIL

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The turf on tees, fairways, and greens on an average 18 hole golf course has a basic value of approximately \$255,000.00. It is the most valuable single fixed asset a club has.

Of all the factors that affect the health and welfare of the turf, soil is the greatest. It provides an anchor for the roots, and from it they take nourishment, water, and a large amount of air.

Many kinds of shapes of particles make up a soil. Some are very stable and remain unchanged for long periods of time, such as the sands, silts, and clays. Others are less stable and undergo change relatively fast, such as organic matter including dead plant and animal remains.

Soil which is ideal for growing turf is teeming with life. A handful of it will contain more living individual microscopic plants and animals than there are people on earth: Living down under among the soil particles and plant roots are billions of bacteria, protozoa, fungi, viruses, nematodes, and others that make up the micro-organism population of the soil. Most of them are beneficial and their welfare is vital to the success and prosperity of the turf. It is through their activity that most of the plant food elements become available to the turf.

Between the soil particles are open spaces called pore spaces where the air, water, organic matter, micro-organisms, and roots exist. Entry and movement of air and water into and through the soil is very important since grass roots and beneficial organisms require air and moisture to live and grow. If these passageways or openings are too small, the movement of air and water is restricted. Grass roots will not penetrate soil that does not have adequate pore space to provide the necessities of life.

Since the soil is made up of various sized and shaped mineral particles, such as sand, silt, and clays and organic matter, a consideration of these materials will help us understand soil structure. Mass and weight is given to soil by sand which is the largest of the mineral particles. We can easily see these with the eye and estimate them by rubbing a pinch of moist soil particles between the forefinger and thumb as the sand particles will roll over. It is the various size sand particles that contribute most to the pore space. They also serve to dilute the very large number of smaller particles, such as silt and clay to keep them from packing together to prevent the entry of roots, air, and water. Pore spaces can be too large to provide a good home for the roots as in the case of soils which are mostly large sand particles. They flood easily during rains and tend to be droughty at other times.

Silt particles are intermediate in size between sand and clay. Its texture and feel, they are very much like baking flour and have a tendency to fall in between the sand particles to partially fill up the pore spaces in the soil. By doing this, they help reduce large pore spaces in size and slow down the movement of air, water, and roots through the soil. When these small particles are rubbed between the thumb and finger it feels like they are sliding over one another.

The surface of the soil particles, especially the smaller ones, play an important role in the capacity of a soil to hold and store water and plant food

elements. Clay particles, which are so small they can only be seen with a powerful microscope, have very large surfaces per unit volume. This is a desirable feature in soils as it provides more space to store food and moisture. This can be illustrated by comparing a unit mass of sand, silt, and clay. One cubic inch of clay will have from 30 to 40 times more surfaces than an equal unit of sand and from 2 to 5 times as much surface as the same volume of silt. Most desirable soils contain somewhere around 25% of their volume as clay. This desired portion of clay may become objectionable if it is concentrated in a mass or layer in the soil, as it closes up the pore spaces. Clay particles accumulate in pockets in the soil or layers will restrict the penetration of roots, air, and water until the soil is not suitable for plant growth. Such conditions often develop in natural soils and have to be corrected.

Organic matter is another kind of material found in soil in varying amounts. These organic materials are the minute fragments and remains left from the decomposition of plants and animal residues in the soil. They are varied in shape, and range in size from larger than sands, to the very fine clays. Organic particles are usually porous or spongy in nature and when found concentrated in the soil are called various things, such as peat, humus, etc. They help materially in holding moisture and plant food. Micro-organisms are continually attacking organic matter, decomposing it, and releasing carbon dioxide, plant food, and water.

Organic matter gives soil its black color. However, black color does not always indicate a good soil. A tight, non-porous soil is of little value for growing grass regardless of its color. Black soils are often called top soils and may be nothing more than black swamp muck which is of little use in producing grass.

Soils of any color which have good structure will produce excellent grass when fertilized. Light colored soils will often produce better turf than dark soils which are mostly clay.

Structure is the aggregation and arrangement of soil particles. An ideal soil structure for grasses is one in which the soil components — sand, silt, clay, and organic matter — are in the proportions and arrangement that will provide adequate pore space for vigorous root development and storage for water and plant food.

Clay soil structure can be improved by the addition of organic materials (peat, humus, etc.) and coarse mineral particles (sand). Sandy soil structure can be improved by the addition of organic materials and fine mineral particles, such as silt and clay.

It is easier to improve sandy soils than clay soils due to the difference in number of particles. Clay soils have millions more particles per unit volume and it is difficult to mix sand and organic particles in between such a large number of clay particles.

Once a clay soil has been improved to a good deep loam, it will remain a desirable soil for a long time. An improved sandy soil will seldom remain in good physical condition for more than a few years. Such a soil must be continually improved by aerifying and working in organic material.

A program of continual soil improvement which includes aeration, plus the addition of conditioning materials and plant food elements, will do much to insure the safety of the turf.