

DECEMBER, 1968

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The Bull Sheet

Official Bulletin

Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents



ANNUAL MEETING

BROOKWOOD COUNTRY CLUB

DECEMBER 10, 1968

**MERRY CHRISTMAS
and
HAPPY NEW YEAR**

TOM BURROWS, Editor
1648 Prairie
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Walter H. Fuchs, 1968 President

The President's Message

This is my last message as President of the Midwest. I missed attending three meetings during my term as President. Our joint meeting with Wisconsin in August, the October meeting and the November meeting. I said I would attend all the meetings I could and I did. Many thanks to the chairmen of the various committees for the fine work they have done. To the Superintendents that have been our hosts for the year, and the Club Managers who took such good care of us, a big "Thank You" also. Also a wish that my successor shall have as an able body of men to support him in the coming year.

I feel it is wise to remind you that the National meeting is being held in Miami, Florida the week of January 19th through 24th. See you all then.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

President
Walter H. Fuchs



Harry G. Nielsen Jr. and Harry G. Nielsen Sr., Host of the MAGCS November meeting at Brae Loch Country Club.

IN APPRECIATION

I would like to thank Mr. Jim L. Holmes, Mr. Stan Rachesky and Mr. Walter Fuchs for their monthly columns, along with many others, who wrote articles in 1968.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES OF THE MAGCS.

Editor,
Dick Trevarthan

A KIND LETTER SENT TO WESTMORELAND C. C.

Dear Mr. Demand:

On behalf of the Executive Committee of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents and all of its members, I would like to thank you for the use of Westmoreland facilities Tuesday, October 15. The meeting was an outstanding success due to the gracious hospitality of Superintendent Julius Albaugh and Manager William Sokolick.

It was a rare pleasure to play such a magnificently manicured golf course, and of course, the dinner was a gourmet's delight. Our members were most impressed with the harmony that obviously exists at your club.

Thank you again for a glorious day.

Sincerely yours,
Paul Voykin
Arrangement chairman.



John Husar, Mike Bavier, Paul Frankowski

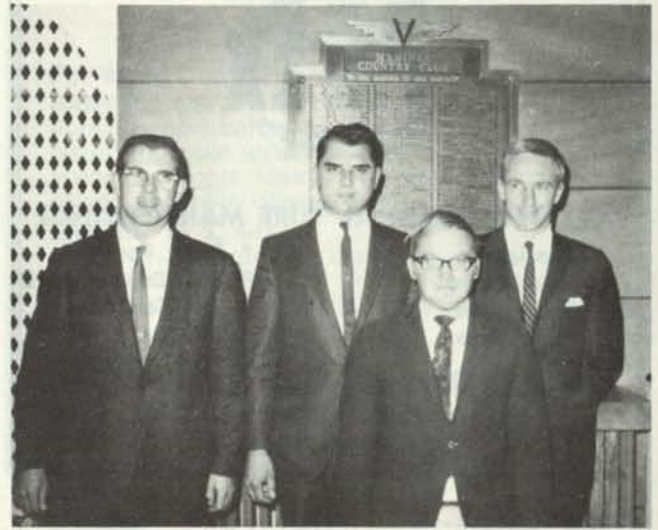
Mr. John Husar —

While defending the title "Greenskeeper" against the title of "Golf Course Superintendent" in his column, Sunday, November 24, Mr. John Husar (Editor of Chicago Tribune Locker Room) managed to do little more than ridicule the profession and the educational meetings of the Golf Course Superintendents. Judging from the ending of that column, "So, all you Greenskeepers, don't bother to call. Write. We'll print some of your letters when we come back," it may be that Mr. Husar deliberately set out to do just exactly that. If Mr. Husar has that little respect for the Golf Course Superintendent, we suggest that he follow a superintendent around day and night for one week during the golf season. Then he might gain a little more respect for the man who sometimes wears baggy pants and very often gets dirt under his fingernails.

MAGCS



Dr. Shurtleff, Leo Cleary, and Dr. Houston Couch at MAGCS Annual Clinic.



Program participants at MAGCS Annual Clinic L. to R. John Jackson, Carl Grassl, Gene Palrude and Ray Schmitz.



John Jackman, Superintendent of Medinah Country Club, host to MAGCS Annual Fall Clinic.



Carl Grassl, Walter Degischer and Ted Sokolis. Walter was the feature speaker at the November Meeting of the MAGCS.

The annual MAGCS FALL CLINIC once again proved to be one of the best of its kind. Mr. Ted Sokolis would like to extend his personal thanks to all those who helped make it a great success.

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HOLMES' CORNER

by James L. Holmes
 USGA Green Section
 Mid-Continent Director

The Green Committee Seminar sponsored by the Chicago District Golf Association held at Butterfield Country Club on November 15, was indeed a success. Accolades to Mr. Ralph Peterson, Chairman of the Chicago District Golf Association, Green Committee, and others responsible for the program, are in order. A considerable amount of meaty information was made available to those present, which included club officials, golf professionals, club managers and golf course superintendents. Discussions concerning budgets and golf car operations seem to be of greatest interest. Jerry Dinelli had some great ideas on mechanization in the future and we were all interested in hearing his comments about the closed-circuit T.V. progress at Northmoor Country Club. Charlie Wilson was his usual scintillating self, as master of ceremonies, and kept all the speakers on time, which is no small task in itself.

All the golf courses Lee Record and I have visited since early October are in excellent condition and turf is "going to bed" in top shape.

Certainly, we must be on the look-out for abnormally dry conditions or ice sheet formation which may develop during the coming winter and early spring. It is interesting to observe that most golf course superintendents have gone back to topdressing. Or, certainly more topdressing is being done at present than was done only five years ago. Mr. Record said that fairly heavy topdressing in late fall is a fairly common practice in New England, as, in their opinion, turf on greens winters much better, when topdressing is used.

Last week, I had the pleasure of visiting the state owned golf courses in Kentucky. No doubt few people are aware that Kentucky currently is operating twelve golf courses in the state park system. I am not aware that any other state has such an energetic golf course program. Their courses are a great attraction and entice many people to make greater use of the parks system. Throughout the state there is an interesting combination in use of bermudagrass, Zoysia, bentgrasses and bluegrasses. One of their biggest problems, is that of obtaining, training and keeping competent help.

I had the opportunity to spend a week on the Costa del Sol in Spain, by taking advantage of the Chicago District Golf Association's weekly jaunts into this area. My wife and I had an absolutely fantastic time and would definitely recommend this trip to anyone having the opportunity to go. There are five golf courses where trip participants can play. Most of them are interesting lay-outs with good turf and playing conditions; comparable to the average or better courses in the greater Chicago area. I was amazed at the amount of bentgrass. Not only are all greens bentgrass but considerable bentgrass is present on tees and in fairways. Actually, I suppose this shouldn't be too much of a surprise as the Costa del Sol area reminds one very much of southern California and Arizona. The Spanish, at least those we come in contact with, are gracious and hospitable people.

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GOLFERS WARNED: BEE STING CAN BE FATAL

Bee stings can be fatal to hypersensitive golfers.

That reminder comes from James W. Brandt, president of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, who adds:

"Every year, thousands of golfers and other outdoor sportsmen are stung by insects such as bees, wasps, hornets and yellow jackets. Most stings are not serious, causing but slight discomfort. In rare cases of hypersensitivity, however, one bee sting can cause death."

Brandt suggested that all golfers see their doctors now.

"Ask the physician to administer a simple allergy test. If negative results show, he will begin a immunization program and prescribe inexpensive emergency medication," Brandt said.

He noted that medical authorities claim hypersensitivity to insect venom, while extremely rare, is very dangerous if undiscovered and left untreated.

The American Medical Association, he added, has reported that for about 95 per cent of those persons treated for bee stings, therapy proved effective.

"Many bee-sting fatalities could have been prevented. All that needed to be known was a person's susceptibility prior to the sting," Brandt stated.

The Danville (Ill.) Country Club golf superintendent commented on a study of case histories conducted by the Insect Allergy Committee of The American Academy of Allergy.

"It indicated," he said, "there's a higher incidence of insect sting reaction among allergic persons or individuals with allergic tendencies, but only a few will be so sensitive that death could be probable."

Based on other information from the American Medical Association, Brandt called attention to the following hints that may help avoid attracting insects and prevent stings:

1. Insects only sting in self defense when threatened or disturbed, especially if their nests are endangered.

2. They are very sensitive to air motion and are more apt to attack anything that stirs the air and excites them.

3. Bees seem to be attracted to and/or angered by dark colors. Light pastel shades don't seem to annoy them.

4. Insect repellants, while not foolproof, may be helpful and hypersensitive golfers would be wise to use one.

5. Insects are attracted to floral odors. Try not to use aftershaves, colognes, hair or other cosmetic preparations before teeing-off.

6. If a bee, wasp or yellow jacket flies close by or lands on you, try to stay still or move slowly. Chances are if you attempt to brush it away the motion will frighten the insect, and it will sting.

Brandt cautioned golfers that it takes time to build resistance and treatment now could save one's life.

"Why take an unnecessary chance. If you aren't hypersensitive, the most you can spend is a small amount of time and money. If you are hypersensitive, you have done yourself and your family a great service," Brandt said.

Defending champ Art Donaldson is expected to be among the entries when the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America holds its annual golf championship January 15-17, 1969, at the King's Inn Golf Club, Freeport, Grand Bahama Island.

Golf superintendent for the Capilano Golf and Country Club, West Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, Donaldson won the crown last year at Monterey, California, with a 150, over the 36-hole distance.

Tournament chairman, Stanley E. Clarke, Jr., past president of the South Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association, the host group, said that registration forms and entry fees must be submitted to GCSAA headquarters, 3158 Des Plaines Avenue, Des Plaines, Illinois 60018, no later than December 15.

He added that major trophies will be presented during the 40th International Turfgrass Conference and Show which will be held January 19-24, 1969, at the Fontainebleau Hotel, Miami Beach, Florida.

Additional information can be had by writing GCSAA headquarters.

Kenneth G. Weill, service manager of commercial products for the Jacobsen Manufacturing Company, Racine, Wisconsin, will be a demonstrating participant in the Fairway Mower Maintenance Clinics of the 40th International Turfgrass Conference and Show, January 19-24, 1969, at the Fontainebleau Hotel, Miami Beach, Florida.

James W. Brandt, president of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA), the sponsoring group, made the announcement. He said the informative clinics are scheduled to run simultaneously but will be repeated so that the many people expected at the conference will have an opportunity to attend all the clinics.

Weill has conducted clinics of this type throughout the United States, including Hawaii. He recently conducted a service training program in Europe. A Jacobsen employee for 26 years, he is also the director of education and the director of field service for the firm.

In addition to slides, Weill will use an actual mower in his presentation. Overhaul and grinding manuals will be available without charge to those who attend the clinics.

Jay Dermer, Mayor of Miami Beach, Florida, will extend the City's official greetings at the opening session of the 40th International Turfgrass Conference and Show, January 19-24, 1969, at the Fontainebleau Hotel, Miami Beach, Florida.

Sponsored by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, the Conference will feature some 40 outstanding speakers, including research scientists, agronomists, golf course superintendents, and officials of other golf agencies, James W. Brandt, GCSAA president said.

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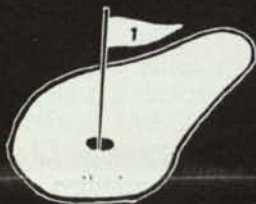
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FLOODED AREAS

Many golf courses have had flooded areas from the heavy rains we have experienced this year and plans are now in process to provide drainage systems for some of those flooded areas, but before an adequate system of drainage can be designed the amount of water to be removed plus the removal time in hours must be determined.

The following formula for arriving at the amount of water to be removed may be used in the Chicago area.

$$Q = \frac{A \cdot I \cdot R}{T + t} \times 450$$

in which Q equals the runoff in gallons per minute.

A equals the area in acres which is being drained.

I equals the impervious factor or runoff which is 0.30%.

R equals the rainfall in inches per hour.

T equals the duration of the rainfall in hours.

t equals the time in hours for removal of the storm water.

EXAMPLE

Assume we had 100 acres of land to drain on which one-inch of rain had fallen in one hour's time and which we decided to remove in a period of six hours the above formula may be used as follows:

(Q) Gallons per minute =

$$\frac{(A) 100 \times (I) 0.30 \times (R) 1}{(T) 1 + (t) 6} \times 450$$

$$= 1936 \text{ gallons per minute.}$$

C. E. (Scotty) Stewart

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2. From the St. Peter Sandstone formation which begins about 800 feet below ground level and which is about 100 ft. in thickness, this formation slopes upwards as it heads north and comes to the surface a few miles north of Watertown, Wisconsin, this outcropping is about 2000 square miles in area but does not get anywhere near Lake Superior. It might be added that with the many wells which have been drilled in this formation the water supply is about exhausted.
3. From the Galesville Sandstone formation which begins about 1400 feet below ground level and which extends to about 1800 feet, or 400 feet in thickness. This formation also outcrops in Wisconsin a few miles south of Wausau which is many miles from Lake Superior.

So the next time you hear someone saying that his well water comes from Lake Superior, take it with a grain of salt.

C. E. (Scotty) Stewart

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CONTROLLING SKUNKS

by Stan Rachesky
Entomologist, University of Illinois

The striped skunk is the most common of the species in the North Central States, though the little spotted skunk or "Civet cat" is abundant in Minnesota, Iowa, and westward. They are also abundant in the Chicagoland area.

Skunks are poor climbers and find most of their food on or near the ground. Their diet includes small rodents, snakes, frogs, carrion, fruits, berries, mushrooms, bird eggs, grubs and small insects.

They make their homes by enlarging existing holes, or by using the dens of other animals. Several families sometimes occupy the same den. Inhabited dens may be recognized by fresh droppings containing undigested insect parts near the mound or hole. Skunk hair and rub marks may also be present.

Skunks are a reservoir in the transmission of rabies. They have replaced foxes as the most important wildlife species spreading this dread disease.

A less serious, but common, complaint occurs when one or more skunks take up residence under buildings. While searching for grubs, skunks may frequently uproot lawns. This damage consists of small pits three or four inches across, or sometimes large sections of the turf are rolled back.

Rather than destroy skunks needlessly, it is better to exclude them from places where they may become a nuisance. If they are under a building, close all but one opening and sprinkle a little patch of flour in front of it. Examine this patch of flour after dark. If tracks show that the animals have departed, close the opening and seal it with cement, sheet metal or wire netting. Illuminating an area frequented by skunks often has a good repellent effect, causing them to seek cover elsewhere.

Where skunks have gotten into basement window wells or similar pits, from which they cannot escape, a board with cleats nailed at six-inch intervals can be cautiously lowered into the well. The skunk will then be able to climb out.

Skunks damage lawns by digging in them for the insect grubs. This damage can be greatly reduced or prevented by using soil insecticides to destroy the grub itself. Treat your lawn with Chlordane which can be purchased at a garden center or hardware store. Follow label directions for application rates. Make sure you use plenty of water. A hose-end sprayer will do a good job in placing this insecticide into the soil.

Skunks can be caught with No. 1 or 1½ steel traps set at the entrance to their den. When a den is used by more than one animal, time can be saved by setting several traps. The trap stake should be located far enough from the hole to keep the trapped animal in the open. Skunks are frequently taken in unbaited traps, but it is better to use the head of a fowl or a dead mouse as bait to attract them. In places where their scent would be objectionable, use baited box-traps or wire-cage traps covered with burlap.

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