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Golf Cars To Bed

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Figure III—Using this method, five golf cars can be stored in an area which would otherwise only accommodate two golf cars.

burned from the carburetor. This eliminates the possibility of gasoline evaporation, which leaves a varnish deposit.

Spark plugs should be removed and a small amount of engine oil inserted into the spark plug holes. Then the engine should be rotated a few revolutions. This will assure good lubrication of the cylinder walls and prevent the possibility of rust due to condensation. The spark plugs should then be replaced, after first checking to see that they are still in good condition.

Bodies—The exterior of the golf car should be thoroughly cleaned before it is stored. Use of hot water under high pressure and special detergents that cut grease and grime—but not

paint—is ideal. Just plain scrubbing is a practical substitute. The upholstery should be cleaned and necessary touch-up painting done prior to storage. Even though today's fiberglass and metal bodies are vastly superior to those of the past, they still need some attention. Winter is the time to do it.

There are other areas to check when golf cars are inoperative, such as brakes, foot and selector switches, electrical circuits, wheel bearings, and the like. Often these only require inspections to see that they are operating in proper condition.

Finally, winter is a fine time to look over and tighten up those unsung heroes of any golf car—the nuts and the bolts. ●

Owners Of CLUB CAR Fleets Endorse The Analogy That CLUB CAR Is To The Golf Car Business What Automatic Pin Setting Equipment Was To Bowling Alleys. CLUB CAR Is Cutting The Operating Expense On Any Fleet Of Golf Cars In Half And At The Same Time Doubling Gross Rental Incomes.



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or more charges on the batteries. Other golf cars can go only 18 holes (1 round) and still retain a 50% battery reserve. If driven 36 holes (2 rounds) the batteries are deep-cycled to such a point that the batteries will only take from 200 to 266 charges before they must be replaced.

The CLUB CAR patented drive unit, motor and light aluminum frame is guaranteed for two years and the savings effected in batteries, battery chargers, parts and electrical cost of charging batteries can result in a 50% reduction in a fleet's operating costs.

CLUB CAR will give you a "sunrise to sunset" operation and still be raring to go on a lighted par-3 course. This elimination of "down-time" for repairs or battery charging can double gross rental incomes. WE GUARANTEE CLUB CAR TO OUT-PERFORM ANY GOLF CAR ON ANY GOLF COURSE ANYWHERE AT ANY TIME. MAKE US PROVE IT. Don't buy any golf car until you have enjoyed a demonstration ride in CLUB CAR, the longest, widest, most stylish and yet lightest golf car on the market.

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Winter golf the easy

Neither sleet, nor snow or rain can stay these golfers from their appointed rounds when they swing away on these indoor golf courses.

This fall will mark an interesting first for Product Investors Corp. in New York, the company that markets GOLFOMAT, the indoor golf game. While the units are located all over the world in luxury apartments, aboard ships and self-contained centers similar to bowling alleys, the trend is now toward installations at golf clubs.

At the Lakeside Golf Club in Fort Wayne, Indiana, the installation of 20 units will permit the club operators to keep open on a 12-month basis with an uninterrupted schedule of tournaments. (Normally Lakeside, like most other northern clubs, would close down for the duration of winter.)

In addition, the indoor facilities will permit play during the evening, when the 18-hole out-door course is closed, and during bad weather, regardless of season.

Lakeside has built a special wing to house the indoor golf facilities, which will be connected to the existing clubhouse by the pro shop.

Russell Strouse, who is one of the four investors in the operation and the club's professional at the same time, likes it this way. His pro shop will now be able to operate regular store hours on a twelve-month basis. As a result, he plans to work his three-man staff on an eight-hour, five-day week, year round. This not only means there will not be periods of unem-

ployment, but he and his staff will not have to work from sun-up to sun-down during the season to earn enough money for the balance of the year.

As Strouse says, "Your family still eats twelve months of the year, even if you only have income for seven months."

The Lakeside owners estimate that their investment of \$200,000 will be repaid within three years, based on current traffic. These units (\$7,000 each) represent \$140,000 of the total investment, and the remainder is for the 70ft. by 140ft. wing for indoor play. The club charges \$2.50 greens fee during the week and a \$3.50 fee on weekends. The same amount will be charged for indoor golf.

The Lakeside owners had felt the squeeze for additional clubhouse and golf facilities shortly after the club opened in 1954. The clubhouse was rebuilt in 1960 and then it was again found that it was inadequate to handle the traffic. This year an entirely new clubhouse was built, and, before it was completed, the owners decided to alter their plans to add the indoor golf wing.

In planning the indoor golf facilities, it was determined that 20 units were the equivalent of 18 outdoor holes, giving the club 36 holes in all. The indoor facilities will be posh in keeping with the present clubhouse. The units will be set in pan-

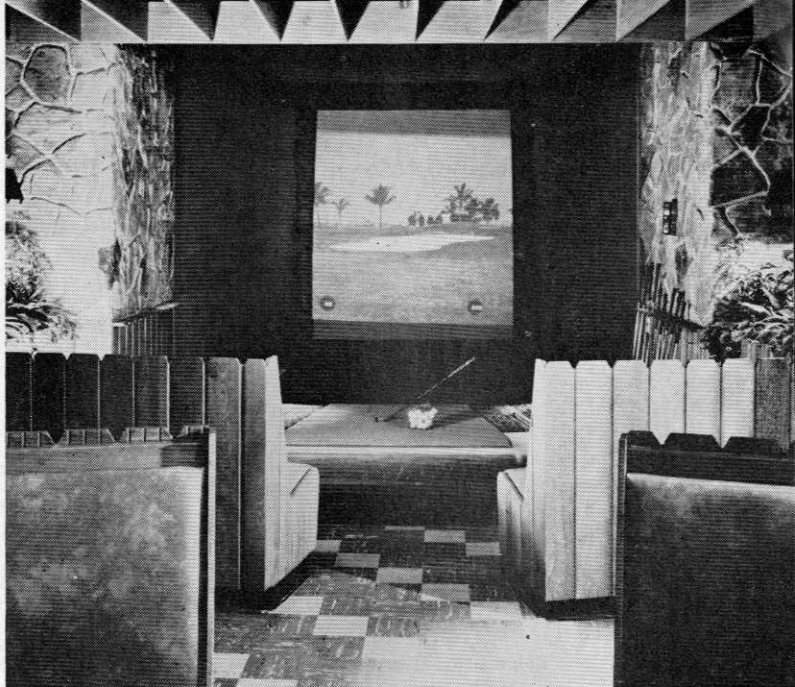
way

elled recesses, amid lush, thick green carpeting.

An important added source of revenue to the club will be derived from the bar and restaurant kept open to accommodate the indoor players — two waitresses will be assigned to this area.

Besides seasonal situations, the units have been the solution for land shortage problems. At the St. Ann's Country Club near St. Louis, the play was so heavy that the club faced adding another nine or moving the course. The situation was further complicated in that there was not enough adjacent acreage to build another nine, and the location—next to McDonnell Aircraft—was too good to abandon. (The aircraft plant's 40,000 workers comprise the heaviest part of the play at the golf course.)

Charles Vatterott, who owns the club, has built a 10-unit facility, or the equivalent of another nine holes. The workers on the night shift can now play at any time. Also, the indoor golf units will be open 18 hours a day to accommodate all shifts.



A typical GOLFOMAT unit. Through use of a 35-mm film, which show slides of each hole photographed at 10-yard intervals, the movie screen, on which the distance of the shot is shown, and the modular transistorized computers, golfers can "play" a round on Pebble Beach, Doral, or Congressional. A foursome will complete 18 holes in about two and one-half hours. The machine can also be set up to function as an automatic driving range.

Because of the extensive anticipated play, Vatterott estimates that his investment will be returned within 18 months or less. (Neither the St. Ann's or Lakeside's figures include the additional revenues from the pro shop or restaurant-bar sales which could reduce the return period by as much as six months.)

There are still some professionals like Dick Drennen, president of the Wisconsin PGA, who prefer an in-town location for teaching. Dick's GOLFOMAT facility is located in a shopping center in Madison, where it is most convenient for women shoppers.

Drennen believes the golf unit is a boon for teaching and estimates that novices learn 20 per cent faster on the machine. Also, they don't have the frustration of looking for lost balls. ●

It takes a splash of color to break-up the monotony of a solid sea of green. Flowers are the answer.

By THOMAS CAREY

Few people will argue that a well maintained golf course doesn't approach the ultimate in beauty. But one who will, curiously enough, is Ray Gerber. It just happens that Gerber has been the superintendent at Glen Oak CC, Glen Ellyn, Illinois, for the past 31 years and, altogether, has been tending turf at country clubs for nearly a half century. In addition, he was president of the GCSA in 1951.

For a superintendent to even hint that a flawlessly groomed course isn't the most inspirational piece of landscape around, suggests heresy. But don't get the impression that Ray is turning his back on his fellow superintendents. Most of them, he says, are perfectionists and the condition of their courses reflect it.

However, they have one glaring failing. They only think green, and they should be thinking other colors as well. This means that outside the sandtraps and occasional water hazards, the average course should not be so green that it is oppressive — "oppressive" is Gerber's own expression.

The Glen Oak superintendent feels that more flowers should be growing around

country clubs—if not out on the course, at least on the club grounds. Where the turf and trees leave off, he says, evergreens are planted. It's monotonous.

"The scenery would be greatly improved," he adds, "if superintendents would put in a few dahlia and petunia beds and if planters filled with geraniums were used here and there to give a lift to the color scheme."

Psychologists, in general, agree with Gerber. People may not be conscious of it, they say, but it takes a splash of color in a sea of green to give them a lift.

Many years ago, when the maintenance cost permitted, Gerber had large flower beds spread over Glen Oak's entire 18 holes. They were located between tees and greens; even in the outer reaches, trees were ringed with beds of dahlias, zinnias and petunias, and potted geraniums decorated some of the tees. But in recent years the high maintenance costs has compelled Ray to shorten his lines and confine his flower show to the vicinity of the clubhouse. Even so, Glen Oak in bloom is still something to see.

The largest and most spectacular flower beds at the club are located behind the clubhouse in a parkway between the parking lot and main building. Traffic is heavy here. This is why the flower beds are concentrated in this location.

The largest bed is about 50 feet in diameter and has a centerpiece of canna. Encircling it are rows of dwarf marigolds, petunias in various hues, marigolds of

Are your grounds too

medium height, a silvery low growing plant known as Dusty Miller, salvia and pampas grass. Behind the circular bed is a large, elliptical bed, planted to zinnias, and a smaller, triangular bed in which zinnias bloom. Last year, this bed was planted in snapdragons.

In the parkway, along with the flower beds, is a statue of a caddy, sculptured in copper. It's the first thing guests usually ask about when they visit the club, and numerous photographers have come to Glen Oak just to take pictures of it.

Legend has it that the statue is a memorial to a caddy who was killed on the spot by lightning, about a half century ago. But Gerber, Al Huske, the pro who has been at Glen Oak for 25 years, and older members of the club say there is nothing to the legend, and nobody knows how it got started.

The copper caddy, known affectionately as Pinky, has been standing in the parkway for at least 40 years. The statue depicts a youth of about 12 walking across a moss covered coral footbridge, carrying seven clubs in a canvas quiver of immediate post World War I vintage. A jet of water pulses out of the top of the umbrella the boy is carrying and streams down over the bumbershoot

into a beautiful pool below the bridge.

The statue is or was intended as a memorial or tribute to caddies of all eras. The name of the sculptor is unremembered. It is quite fitting that the statue should be standing in the Glen Oak yard because the club has long been noted for its excellent caddy program.

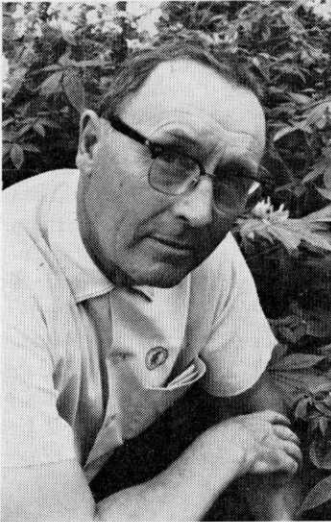
The back of the clubhouse and a wing form an L-shape backdrop for the parkway flower panoply. Low growing and medium yews are planted in a three-foot wide bed that surrounds the clubhouse and wing in this area. Less imaginative superintendents would hide the base of the building here with a hedge, but, at Glen Oak the yews are trimmed to give an alternate box and cone effect. They are also spaced far enough apart so that it is easy to weed between and behind them and to clean out paper, leaves and other debris that blow into the bed.

Although the larger flower beds are concentrated behind the clubhouse, the

general pattern is a large Georgian-type structure, to have the beds encircling the entire building, which was built around 1920.

In the immediate area east of the clubhouse and in front of it there is a predominance of low-spreading pfitzers, but the monotony of the greenery is broken

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Ray Gerber, above, believes that more flowers should be growing around country clubs—if not on the course, at least on the club grounds.

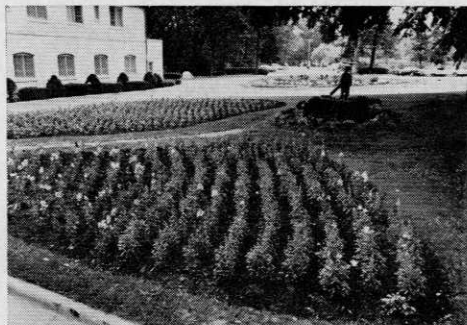
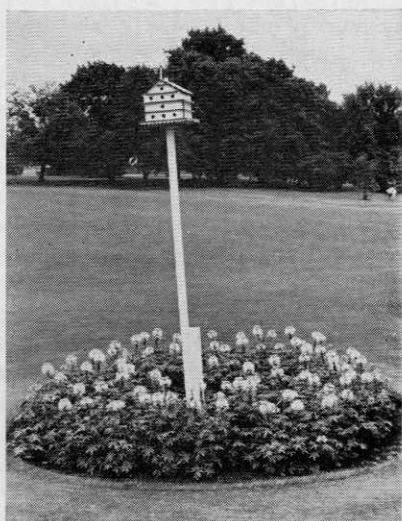
green?

Grounds Too Green?

continued from preceding page



Rectangular flower beds are not part of Ray Gerber's philosophy. He believes they should have a character all of their own such as these circular, elliptical, triangular and irregular-shaped flower beds as shown here.



here by vari-colored phlox, snapdragons and lillies of the valley that peek out from among the shrubs.

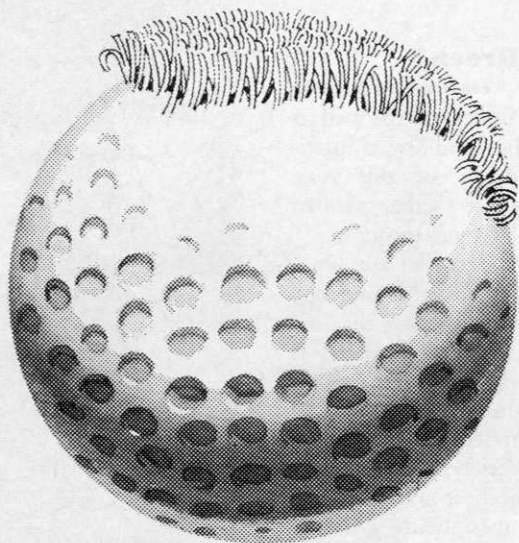
Planters on a slightly elevated patio that fronts the clubhouse contain petunias and geraniums. Farther to the west in front of the clubhouse, ground level beds are planted in geraniums and small, delicate impatiens. The whole front side flower arrangement, which can be seen from the main dining room and a lounge, is floodlighted at night.

Elm trees and tall evergreens grow

flush to the building on the west side. But beyond the adjoining practice green, Gerber's garden grows anew. Lining the first tee on one side are phlox and daisies. Almost directly behind the practice green is a large bed, about 30 feet long and 15 feet deep, that has become to be known as Glen Oak's great seal or trademark.

This is bordered by spreading phytizers and, in the center, fashioned of cohee, or burning bush, a gossamery plant that grows to a height of four or five inches, the legend "Glen Oak and the year" is

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GROWS ANYWHERE

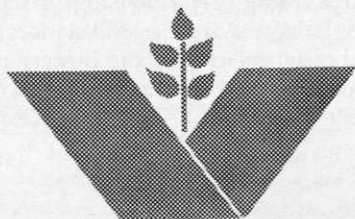
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Grounds Too Green?

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fashioned. The remainder of the bed is filled out with dahlias and dwarf marigolds. Through mid-July of this year, however, the cohee that Gerber planted and replanted hadn't come through.

Moving toward the front of the clubhouse and about 75 or 80 yards out, one of several three-story birdhouses that are spotted around the Glen Oak property is surrounded by a 15-foot circular bed of salvia and white petunias. A flagpole, 20 yards away, is encircled by a bed of dwarf dahlias. This variety, Gerber points out, often wilts in the heat and wind but quickly snaps back upon being watered.

Between the 18th green and 10th tee, both of which are located almost directly in front of the clubhouse, are two large and artistic beds in the configuration of traps that are planted to petunias, marigolds, dahlias and impatiens. Many people consider this blending of the contoured green with its large bunkers, the nearby bentgrass tee and the traps of colorful flowers as the most beautiful spot on the property.

Gerber doesn't feel that square or rectangular flower beds are very artistic. He prefers to plant flowers in circles, semi-circles, triangles or in beds the shape of traps. These forms lend themselves to more colorful and imaginative flower arrangements that will catch your eye.

The slope of the beds in which flowers are planted, the slope of the surrounding terrain, even the height of the flowers themselves should, Ray feels, dictate the configuration of a bed.

Speaking of the back of the clubhouse, Gerber is critical of the way in which many clubs maintain this area. More often than not, the parking lot is located at the rear of the clubhouse and members usually enter the building through the back door. What they see doesn't always re-



As a tribute to caddies of all eras, Pinky, a copper statue-fountain, has stood for the last 40 years in the parkway with water flowing down over his umbrella.

flect too well on the fastidiousness of the superintendent — weeds, unkempt grass, junk piles, gargage cans. "It's enough to make them want to turn around and go back home," says Ray.

"These eyesores should be cleaned up," he adds. "A small flower bed or beds bordering paths or sidewalks is one way of doing it. A hedge or clumps of bushes can hide a lot of dirty linen. So can a trellis covered with climbing roses, clematis or some kind of a vine. Weeds shouldn't be seen, even in the backyard. Guests especially, and more members than are realized, grade the superintendent on the way the back looks, so why shouldn't he go out of his way to keep this area looking presentable?"

What does it cost to plant and maintain flowers in the clubhouse area, such as is done at Glen Oak? Something like \$3,500 a year, including labor and the

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