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Mary Worzella presented a check for \$385 to the WGCSA, profits from her cookbook project and sale. Thanks, Mary!



Dave and Gloria accepted the "Shortest Drive" trophy—a pair of one foot rulers.



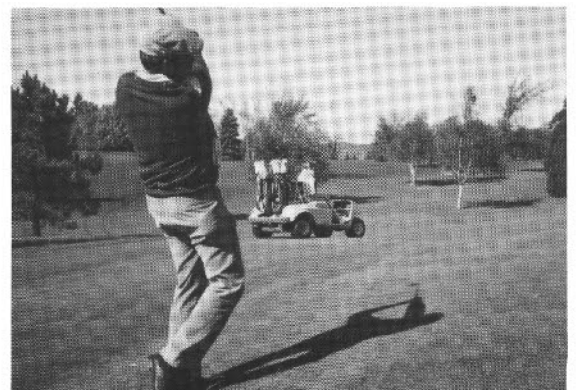
Pat Roberts down a "gully" and...



Bill's in her purse again!



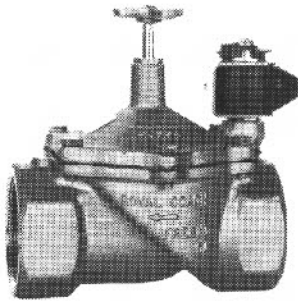
Bob's fist tenses as Shirley...



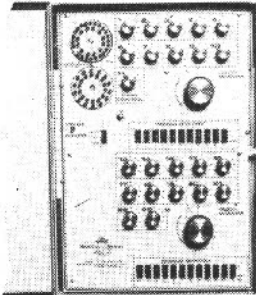
Rod Johnson "swinging out of a barrel".

# IRRIGATION EQUIPMENT

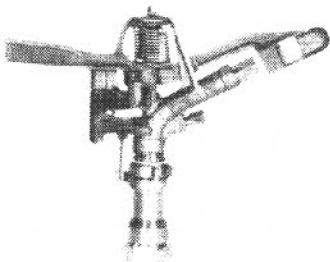
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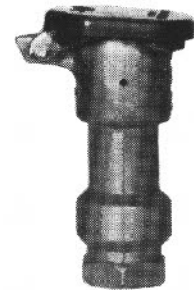
The logo for Buckner Royal Coach, featuring the name in a stylized font with a crown above it.

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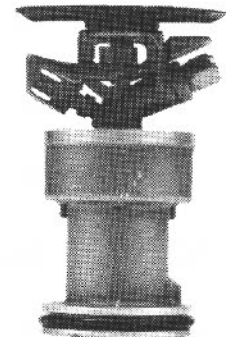
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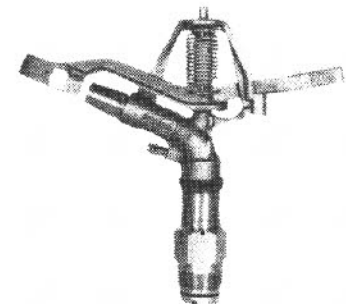
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## Roberts Takes Re-Election Efforts to Houston

The nominating committee of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America has submitted a slate of candidates to the membership for positions on the board and for officers. That list includes WGCSA president Bill Roberts. Bill is running for a second two-year term. The candidates' names will be on the official ballot when elections are held during the 1988 Annual Meeting in Houston, Texas on Monday, February 8.

And speaking of Houston, now is a good time to be making plans for attending this excellent event. The 1988 version of the GCSAA Conference will be the 59th in the long history of the Association. It will be held in Houston's George R. Brown Convention Center. This convention is the largest gathering of professional golf course managers in one location during the year. It is expected to attract more than



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The 1987 Conference broke all existing records in the history of the

event. And as the Houston meeting approaches, all signs point to more records. Not only is attendance expected to exceed this year's, but the Trade Show exhibit space reservations are ahead of last year's **total**. As usual, educational opportunities will abound. More than 350 hours of instruction were presented by 150 instructors last year. There were 29 educational seminars available. We can expect those opportunities will be even greater for 1988.

The dates for the 1988 GCSAA Conference are February 1-8. If you would like more information, talk to anyone of the many GCSAA members in the Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Association. Or feel free to contact the GCSAA itself, either by calling (913) 841-2240 or by writing to:

Golf Course Superintendents  
Association of America  
1617 St. Andrews Drive  
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If you need a recommendation, call this editor. The Houston meeting will be my sixteenth consecutive GCSAA Conference. I wouldn't miss it for the world!

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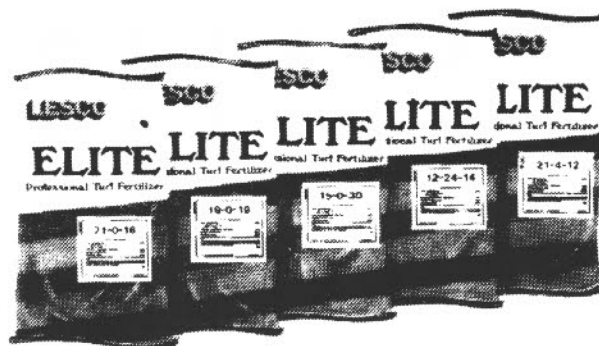


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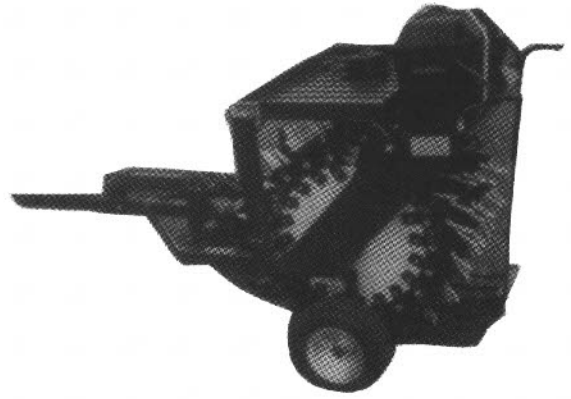
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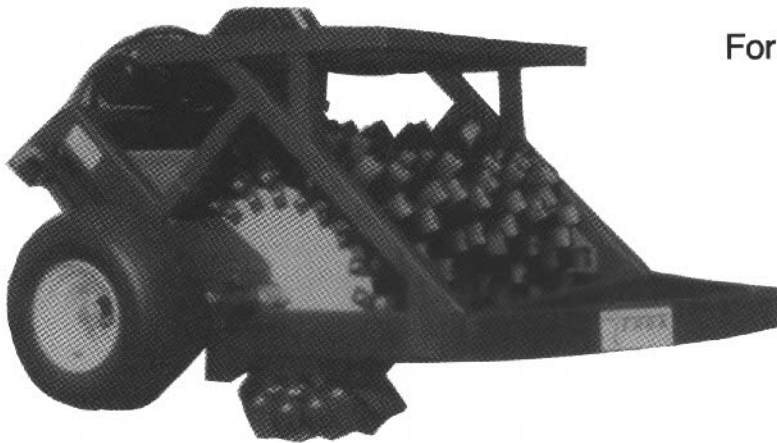


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## BULL'S EYE MEETING A GREAT SUCCESS

The August meeting of the WGCSA was held on the 17th of that month at Bullseye Country Club in Wisconsin Rapids. Sixty-four Superintendents braved August's heat and humidity to enjoy the fine conditions provided by host Superintendent, Mark Kienert.

Winners in the Low Net event for the day included:

- 1st — Gery Ebel & Dick Evenson (tie)
- 2nd — Ed Devinger
- 3rd — Ron Conard
- 4th — Dewey Laak

Flag Event winners included:

- Closest to pin in 3 shots on #11  
Steve Blendell
- Closest to pin on #4  
Dewey Laak
- Long Drive on #7  
Brad Wagner
- Shortest Putt missed on #15  
Bob Musbach
- Long Putt on #18  
Dan Williams

The evening included a short presentation by Golf Course Architect, Dick Nugent, who gave an interesting talk on some of the new design concepts appearing in the golf world. Questions and answers followed his presentation.

The WGCSA members appreciate the time and effort put in by Mark Kienert and his staff in preparing for the day.



## SCHWEIGER WINS AGAIN!

Mascoutin Country Club was the site of this year's WGCSA Annual Golf Tournament. The day was perfect for golf and many of the golfers present turned in some good scores. However, as in past years, no one was able to topple last year's WGCSA Tournament victor, Bruce Schweiger. Yes fellow members, Bruce did it again, and stole the coveted trophy away. Congratulations go out to him for his excellent round of golf.

Host Superintendent, Glenn Gerth, provided the players with some outstanding conditions and is to be commended for that by the members of the Association.

The winners for the day in the four classes of players were:

### Championship

- First Bruce Schweiger
- Second Steve Schmidt

### First Division

- First Mark Kienert
- Second Brad Wagner  
Don Peterson (tie)

### Second Division

- First Bill Knight
- Second Andy Kromwell

### Affiliate Division

- First Dick Evenson
- Second Ed Devinger

Scores for the day are deliberately being excluded because many of the winners were not extremely happy with the scores turned in. (Actually, this reporter forgot to write down the winning scores! I will try to have them for the next issue.)

The day concluded with a talk by Madison Capital Times Sports Reporter, Rob Schultz. The talk of the evening centered on the role of the Superintendent and the lack of public awareness on the importance of the profession as a whole. Rob presented many ideas on how to improve our public image.

Again, the WGCSA members thank Glenn and his fine staff for their time and effort in supporting the WGCSA.

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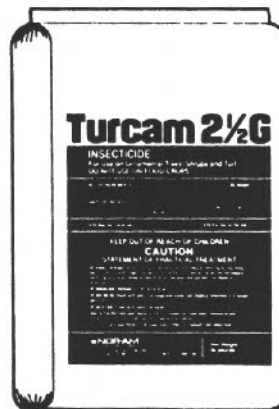
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My friend, Lester Verhaalen, wasn't the first superintendent at Brynwood Country Club in Milwaukee. Greenkeeper Bob Farmer preceded him by eight years. However, Les was in on the construction during the mid 1920's driving a team of horses pulling a scraper. He liked the park-like setting and when offered the job decided to stay on as a groundskeeper. He said, "It differs from conventional farming, although there are many similarities."

In July of 1935, Mr. Farmer moved on and club officials asked Les to assume charge of outside maintenance. He accepted with some reluctance because those were still the "dark ages" of golf course maintenance. Les felt he lacked sufficient knowledge, having only a farm background to guide him. Back then, Greenkeepers often were secretive about their practices, and little had been written to give practical help to a novice superintendent.

This brought about a continuous seeking of Turfgrass knowledge, and caused Les to form a lasting friendship with O.J. Noer. In fact, he became an important part of O.J.'s research team. Les established plots to evaluate snowmold and other disease controls. Brynwoods' fairways and putting greens were used to evaluate fertilizers and weed controls. It was at Brynwood that Milorganite first showed superiority over ammonium sulfate in suppressing dollar spot disease. Brynwood also was among the first to practice dormant fertilization and ice removal to suppress winterkill.

Thanks to Les, Brynwood was noted for exceptionally fine, non-irrigated Kentucky bluegrass fairways. They lasted until the early 60's when an attack of leafspot during a summer drought caused injury on the semi-dormant yet still green fairways. The bluegrass rough escaped damage because it was brown and dormant. Les proved it was lack of water that was the real culprit. Where he set a test sprinkler on one fairway, the Kentucky bluegrass was able to outgrow the disease.

In any event, like many clubs before them, Brynwood decided fairway irrigation and close mowing was the way to go. This coupled with more low spot winterkill, caused further loss of Kentucky bluegrass and resulted in annual bluegrass invasion.

Les was a strong believer in organization. He joined the W.G.C.S.A. in 1935, and served as president 1943-45. He was one of the mainstays that held the organization together during World

## A Tribute to Lester Verhaalen

December 9, 1902 -

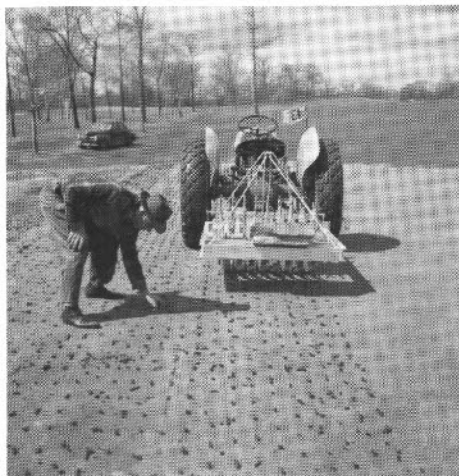
September 13, 1987

*By Charlie Shiley, Forester  
Plum Tree National Golf Club  
As Told to*

*Charlie Wilson, Retired Agronomist*



Les with aerifier at Brynwood C.C., early 1950's.



Les with Stuppel, Smith, et. al. at Brynwood C.C., September 1958.

War II. He served numerous terms as director and on various committees. He had a near perfect attendance and participation record. In 1941, he joined the G.C.S.A.A., and faithfully attended all of their shows and Turfgrass conferences until retirement from Brynwood in 1971. He was pleased to become a quarter century member in 1966. At his death, he was in the 47th year of membership in the national association.

He was a member of the Midwest Regional Turfgrass Association from its inception in 1946, and regularly attended all of their conferences and field days. He served one term as director of the Midwest Foundation.

Even retirement, brought on by a serious operation, failed to stop Les. Following his recovery, he continued to serve Brynwood for another decade in a part-time capacity. Better than half a century of total involvement in growing grass for one golf course is a record that may not soon be broken. It carried Les from the dark ages to the age of enlightenment. The time span went from horses to Ford Model T's and A's with large ring gears and steel wheels for traction. Any moisture much heavier than a "wet dew" immobilized the equipment.

Greens, tees and high banks were mowed with hand pushed mowers. Spray equipment was a wheeled barrel with five foot boom (a pipe with holes drilled in it). This was manually pulled across the green. Then came proportioners and the McLain hand pump.

Some of the early fungicides Les worked with were Bordeaux Mixture, calomel and corrosive sublimate. Cadmium compounds followed the mercurials. Bordeaux Mixture was dropped because of copper toxicity to the grass. Early fertilizers were topdressing and barnyard manure. Next came ammonium sulfate and Milorganite. Superintendents made their own fertilizer mixtures by adding superphosphate and muriate of potash to the nitrogen source.

The earliest weed control was by hand, or a spot treatment of a drop or two of gasoline applied from an oil can. Arsenical use preceded 2, 4-D, at first available in a wax which had to be melted before it would dissolve in sprayable form.

Earthworms were controlled with "Electric Worm Eradicator". There was nothing electric about it. The liquid agitated the worms causing them to cast and die by the hundreds, where they were removed by "worm rakes",



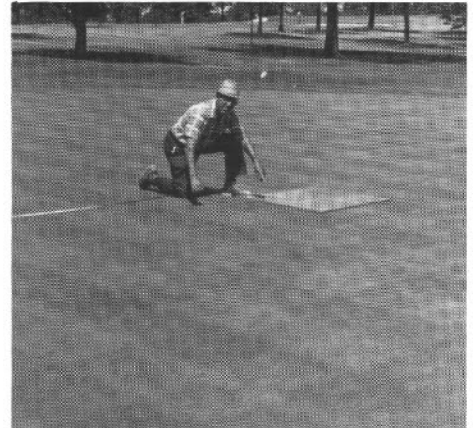


Les demonstrating hand duster at Brynwood C.C., August 1955.

specially designed for this purpose. At each tee was a box containing two pails—one for water to wash the golf ball, the other for sand to tee it up. The West Point Aerifier didn't come along until after World War II. Prior to then, hand forks were used to alleviate compaction and localized dry spots.

Lester Verhaalen leaves behind his devoted wife, Edna, their two children, Ronnie and Karen, seven grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Ronnie, and Karen's husband, Roger Schultz, were golf course superintendents for a time, but left the profession for other endeavors. Our sympathy goes out to all of them.

Les will, of course, be missed. But more than that he will be remembered for his lasting impact on the grass for golf growing profession.



Les with MAPLES-TUFTS measuring board at Brynwood C.C., June 1970.

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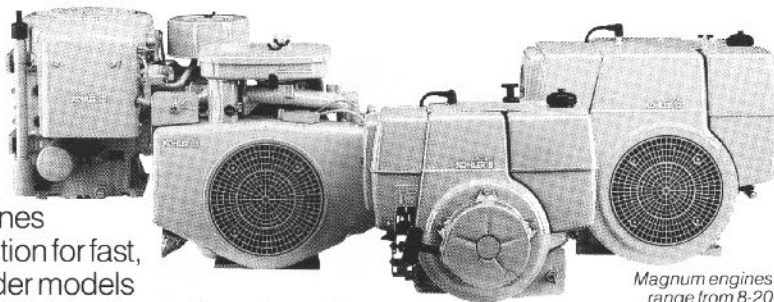
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Assistant Golf Course Superintendent for Butte Des Morts Golf Club. Send resumes to:

Steve Schmidt  
1411 South Bluemound Drive  
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or contact Steve at 414-738-5541.  
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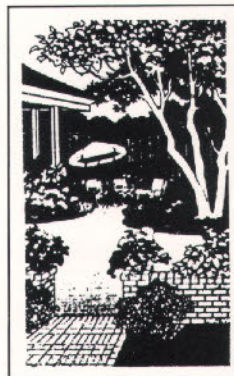
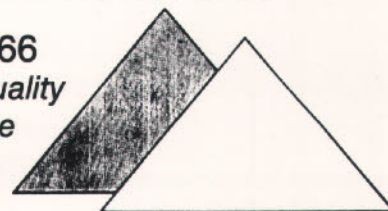
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