

MAGIC KINGDOM CLUB

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America has recently entered into an agreement with the Disney Magic Kingdom Club to provide membership to individuals in GCSAA.

The Disney Magic Kingdom Club is an exclusive program designed to offer a variety of money-saving benefits that are not offered to the general public. These include various discounts on such items as Disneyland/Disney World passports, vacation packages, and Disney merchandise purchases.

There is no fee for GCSAA members to join the Disney Magic Kingdom Club, however, club membership cards will be issued upon **request only**. Club memberships are valid for two years and may be used by anyone in the club member's family. Call the Membership Department today at 800/472-7878 or 913/841-2240 to become a Disney Magic Kingdom Club member.

If we can be of any further assistance or provide any additional information, please do not hesitate to give the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America a call.

PESTICIDE USAGE AT BROOKVIEW GOLF COURSE

by **Andy Lindquist, CGCS
Superintendent**

Recent articles in golfing magazines and local papers have presented an unfair perspective of pesticide usage at golf courses. However, this does give us a good chance to review our pest control program at Brookview Golf Course.

Basically there are three types of pest management programs" preventative, curative and integrated. Preventative pest management concerns using various broad spectrum pesticides applied on a regular basis at predetermined times when it is expected that a particular pest may become a problem. The preventative program is designed to eliminate any sign of th pest (spots/marks/holes/etc.) one hundred percent during the golfing year. The preventative program is expensive budget-wise and is a "low-risk" program for the golf course as far as having to be concerned with disease infestations.

Curative pesticide programs operate on the basis that

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you apply a specific pesticide which generally acts on a specific pest only when the damage caused by the pest reaches a predetermined "damage" level, (i.e., 5% of turf infected; number of pests per sq. ft., etc.) Curative programs are lower cost (chemically) than preventative programs, but puts the course into a "high risk" situation if pest problem is not recognized quickly.

Integrated programs (the system used at Brookview) combines the best of both previous programs. Certain pests (listed in Table I) are problems we traditionally have at Brookview due to specific course conditions (i.e., wet, tight soil; grass species; expectations of customer, etc.) The pests listed in Table I are controlled on a preventative schedule. Table II lists pest problems at Brookview which are controlled on a curative basis at predetermined "damage" levels. The integrated program provides a low risk to the overuse of pesticides and moderate risk to the course as to loss of turf from pest infestation.

Application of control products generally is by using sprayers during calm wind times (6:00 to 9:00 am) and low play days (Monday). However, it must be noted that not every Monday is an ideal spraying day (weather or pestwise), so we may apply products at other times.

I and my assistant are licensed by the State and are recertified yearly. Nearly all of the products applied are also available to the homeowner from their local hardware store and are classified as "general use pesticides".

To summarize, control of pest causing organisms is a necessary part of any fine turf maintenance program, and pesticides are used as infrequently as possible and applied in a manner to have the least effect on the golfer. I hope this clears up any questions that you may have concerning our pest control methods.

Food For Thought

According to Einstein's Theory of Relativity, the dimensions of time and space are not absolute, but relative to the observer. For example, for a person traveling at the (theoretically unattainable) speed of light, time appears to progress normally, as it would for an earth-bound individual. Yet a light-speed space traveler returning to earth after a journey of a few days (by spaceship's clock) would find all her friends had aged beyond recognition. For the earth-bound observers, time slows and appears to stand still for the individual traveling at the speed of light.

Unknown

INDUSTRY NOTES

News From MGCSA Associate Members

Compiled from:

**LONG LAKE FORD TRACTOR, INC.
RANSOMES OF MINNESOTA
CUSHMAN MOTOR MOTOR CO., INC.**

Ransomes PLC of the United Kingdom has bought Cushman for \$150 million in a deal the two companies say will create a partnership offering the most complete product line in the turf-care equipment and industrial and commercial vehicle industry.

The Cushman group, which includes Cushman turf vehicles and mowers, Ryan aerators and sod cutters, and Brouwer mowers, vacuums and sod harvesting equipment, will be run as an independent entity under the Ransomes America umbrella.

"Cushman will operate as before," stated Helmut Adam, president of Ransomes America. "it is a well-run company with a good name. We are not going to change something that runs as well as Cushman." Manufacturing and marketing of Cushman products will continue to operate out of Lincoln, Nebraska. Cushman President Stuart Rafos, who will continue to run Cushman along with his existing leadership, said substantially increased plant capacity is already being planned.

He said the new partnership means Cushman, which has been a division of Outboard Marine Corp of Lincoln, Nebraska, is now aligned with a partner that is close to its core business and has the international marketing expertise and organization to greatly extend Cushman's growing international business as well as enhance its domestic market position.

Officials in the partnership project that both international and domestic sales will double Cushman's current \$100-million annual sales in the near future.

Rafos said Cushman will continue to operate as an independent company, with its management team and dealer network in the United States and Canada unchanged.

Ransomes also recently acquired the Salsco line of turf renovation equipment. The addition of walk-behind, towed and rider-type core aerators, a slicer/seeder, a walk-behind dethacher, tailgate and towed truck loaders, and a walk-behind leaf blower to the product line helped increase the range of products offered by Ransomes.