

## MODERN ARBORICULTURE

A SYSTEMS APPROACH TO PRACTICAL TREE CARE

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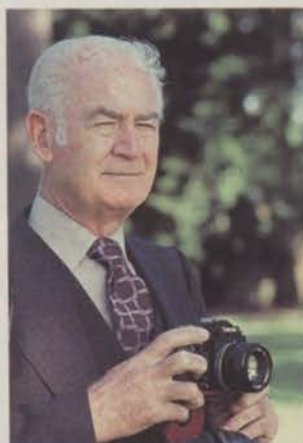
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## PEOPLE

### Semi-retirement suits former super Bidwell



Warren Bidwell

Semi-retirement has been kind to Warren Bidwell, one of the true "legends" of the turf industry. Bidwell checkerboards the world, singing the praises of bentgrasses in general and

the "Penn" varieties in particular since his retirement from golf course superintendent-ing 10 years ago.

"The greatest thing to happen to the golf industry is the use of bentgrass for greens farther south all the time," Bidwell observes. "However, if a superintendent in the South is foolish enough to over-fertilize bentgrass greens, he (or she) will have some problems."

Bidwell—the deliberate, opinionated ex-superintendent at Congressional Country Club in the Washington, D.C. area—never formally studied turf.

"I'm a non-college person," he says. "Short course to short course is the closest I've been to academia. But *continued on page 22*

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## PEOPLE from page 18

most of the superintendents today are college-educated young people, which is great for the industry. I saw that trend start 15 to 20 years ago."

Bidwell, whose father was a cemetery manager, began formally working in the green industry way back in the mid-1930s with the Fort Mitchell (Ky.) Club.

Since signing to promote Tee-2-Green grasses in 1973, he has traveled to Japan, Australia and New Zealand, Morocco and South Africa.

More than half-a-century in the turf business has led to friendships with such immortals as Tom Mascaro (who used a Bidwell course to test a new invention called a turf aerator), former GCSAA president Norman Kramer, educator and researcher H. Burton Musser, and Frank Murphy, general chairman of the 1976 PGA Championship.

"My semi-retirement was kind of a planned event," says Bidwell. "I tried to totally retire three years ago, but it didn't work too well. I'm gradually trying to totally retire again, by choice."

One of the trends Bidwell doesn't especially care for (and at this point in his life, he knows he need not mask feelings or mince words) is how golf course superintendents are treated by clubs.

"There is a lack of understanding on the part of golf course officials," he notes. "The superintendent is not totally prepared to meet any problem. This is a corporate approach to life: total disregard for any type of reasoning. Golf course officials must be educated."

—Jerry Roche

## Other people:

J. David Fischer was promoted to director of turfgrass and governmental sales and marketing for Pennington Seed, and **Russell Nicholson** was pro-

moted to turfgrass agronomist. Fischer will be responsible for marketing the company's growing line of specialty turfgrasses. Nicholson will be responsible for support and consultation to Pennington turfgrass customers.

**Donald J. Floyd** is new research agronomist for Pickseed West. He holds a master's degree in agriculture from Oregon State University. Floyd will supervise Pickseed West's Oak Knoll Research Farm, where an extensive collection of promising breeding material is on hand.

New officers for the American Society of Consulting Arborists are: president **Kenneth D. Meyer**, president-elect **John M. McNeary**, vice president **John S. Miller**, secretary-treasurer **Sam Knapp** and immediate past president **Laurence R. Hall**.

**James M. Latham**, director of the Great Lakes region for the USGA Green Section, was honored by the Wisconsin Chapter of the GCSAA for his contributions to golf course maintenance. Latham has been involved with the industry for 30 years, including that as marketing manager at Milorganite Division of MMSD.

**Christine King** has been appointed to the new position of executive director of the Pennsylvania Turf Council. She had been executive secretary-treasurer. She has been with the organization for 13 years.

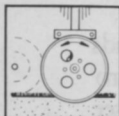
The late **Don A. Rossi** and the late **Davis Love Jr.** have been named winners of the National Golf Foundation's 1990 Herb Graffis Award and Joe Graffis Award, respectively. The former is for preserving the spirit of golf, the latter for the educational advancement of the game. Rossi was executive director of the NGF from 1970 to 1983, then was owner of his own golf development firm. Love, who competed on the PGA Tour from 1958 to 1973, spent 13 years with instructional schools, writing 35 major educational articles. □

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