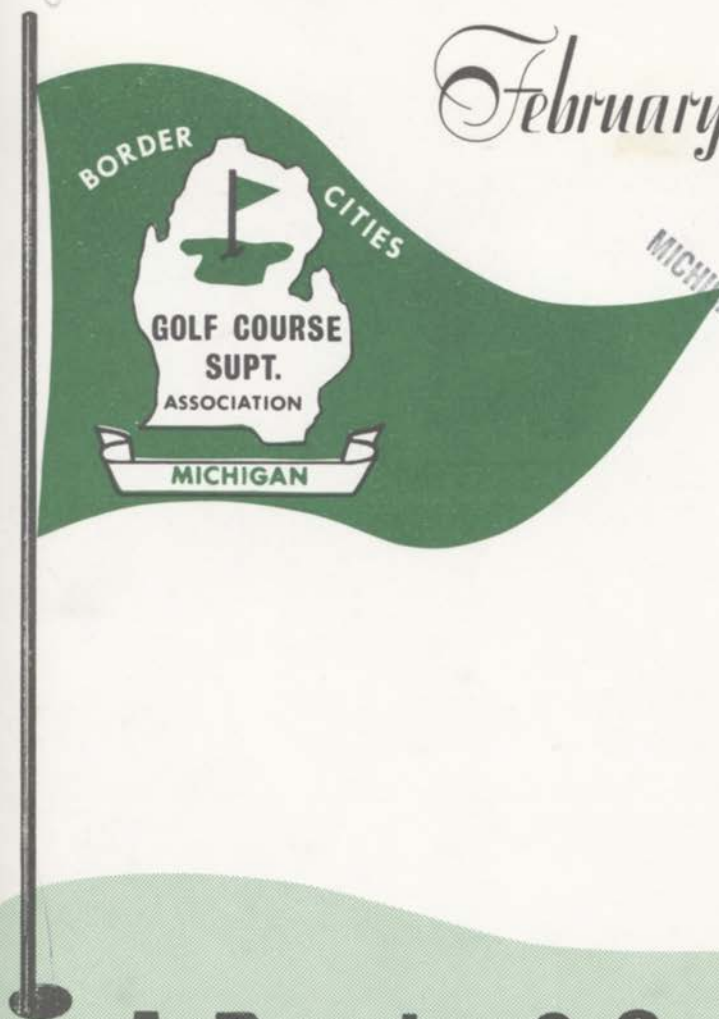


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February 1971

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A Patch of Green

1971-72
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Official Publication of the
Michigan & Border Cities Golf Course Superintendents Association

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The President's Message

Fellow Members:

It is with the best wishes of your elected officers and myself that we extend the happiest of New Year's. Also that the coming year will bring all of you excellent results in your courses and projects that you have planned.

Our heartfelt thanks go to an outstanding job performed by Mr. and Mrs. Earl Prieskorn in our Christmas Party at Edgewood Country Club. As you all know, the cuisene was excellent, as well as the location and selection of

date. It was evident that the turnout exhibited many old friends, which contributed to a wonderful time which was had by all.

At this time I would like to mention the need for your support of our new magazine, "A Patch of Green." Your cooperation and suggestions are needed and welcome in this endeavor for its success.

Let us all have a positive attitude on new members in the new year.

Wishing all of you the best,
Ward Swanson

MBCGCSA Officers



Left to right: Robert Prieskorn, Western Golf and Country Club, Al Kaltz, Maple Lane Golf Club, Clem Wolfrom, Detroit Golf Club, Ward Swanson, President, Plum Hollow Golf Club, Ted Woehrle, Vice President, Oakland Hills Country Club, David Moote, Essex Golf Club, Gerald Gill, Secretary-Treasurer, Tam-O-Shanter Golf Club. Not pictured; Andrew Bertoni, Holly Greens Golf Course, William Madigan, Cou. y Club of Jackson.

43rd Turfgrass Conference Site

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America announced that Cincinnati, Ohio has been selected as the site for the 43rd International Turfgrass Conference and Show. The dates of the Conference will be February 13-18, 1972 and the Netherlands Hilton Hotel will serve as the Association's headquarters.

"The Conference this year has been the best ever, both in terms of our meaningful educational program and the broad and extensive display of equipment and products at our show. We expect the Conference and attendance in Cincinnati to even exceed the response in Denver," stated newly elected GCSAA president Richard C. Blake, who is superintendent of Mt. Pleasant CC, Boylston, Mass.

The Association over which Mr. Blake presides has a 3,000 world-wide membership. Headquarters in Des Plaines, Illinois, GCSAA serves as the clearinghouse of information in the production and maintenance of the world's finest golf turf.

1971 Meeting Schedule

Following are a few dates that are tentative for our coming year:

- March 1-3 - Purdue University
- April 13 - Plum Hollow Country Club
- May 4 - OPEN
- May 25 - OPEN
- June 8 - Flint
- June 28 - Red Run
- July 13 - PICNIC, Burroughs Farms
- August 3 - Selfridge Field
- August 24 - Davidson C.C.
- September 14 - MSU FIELD DAY
- September 20 - GOLF DAY, Oakland Hills
- October 12 - Maple Lanes
- October 26 - Detroit Golf Club

If any of our readers are interested in filling the open dates please contact; Clem Wolfom, Superintendent of the Detroit Golf Club. Clem is the Chairman of the Arrangements Committee. His phone numbers are: Office, 345-4589, Residence, 338-6375.

Meet Your President



Ward Swanson has been a Golf Course Superintendent since 1957 when he started as Superintendent of Idylwyld Golf Club. In 1967 he moved to Plum Hollow Country Club and has been there since.

Ward, a Cody High School graduate served two years in the U.S. Army. While in Korea, he designed a par three golf course for the 24th Division. After separation from the Army he attended Henry Ford College of Dearborn.

Ward has been a member and Director of the Michigan and Border Cities Golf Course Superintendents Association for over ten years and is presently serving his second term of office as president of the Association. He is also a member of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America.

When time permits during the summer he brushes up on his already successful game of golf.

Ward resides in the suburb of Livonia with his wife Maryann and their four children.

Good Luck

Donald Benham
NATIONAL CHEMSEARCH CORP.
626-1111

MBCGCSA January Meeting



Bob Miller of DuPont, on left, chatting with Phil Savage, president of Turf Supplies, Inc., our host for the January meeting.

Our January meeting was sponsored by Turf Supplies and the DuPont Company. A brief discussion was held on the new turf products offered by DuPont for complete disease control. The newest and hottest product on the market today is Tersan 1991, a new systemic fungicide. Questions were answered about fungicide after a short presentation on the new product by Mr. Bob Miller, of the DuPont Company, Inc. Our thanks to Mr. Bill Savage, of Turf Supplies, Inc., our host for the day. The feast and the program was enjoyed by all.

During the Business Meeting, held after the educational program, it was decided to publish a monthly news-

letter from our association to its members. A list of suggested names for the publication was submitted by the membership and given to the Board for their selection. Many good names were submitted (over 60) and after much discussion "A Patch of Green" was picked as the official name for our newsletter.

We are looking for advertisers, so if any of you know of anybody that would benefit by advertising in our paper, please contact:

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Advertising rates are found on the inside front cover.

1970 At A Glance

Sometimes it pays to look back and recall what has past - 1970 was a troublesome year for the grass growers of Michigan. A cool wet spring, followed by a hot dry summer made our job very difficult.

The grass roots never did penetrate the soil to their normal depth, making it impossible for the already short rooted *Poa annua* to support the life of our predominantly *Poa* fairways. What grass did survive found itself being attacked by Dollar Spot and a few other diseases. All in all it was very rough.

A few bright things did happen, however. The turf industry has come to life. We are once again being flooded with new products; mowers, sprayers, fertilizers, chemicals and irrigation

automation. 1970 was the year of the triplex type greens mower.

Also, within our own organization, there is renewed interest and participation which was welcomed by all members in 1970. We had a most successful year - attendance at our meetings was on the increase. Our fund raising day at the annual golf outing produced over \$10,000.00 for turf research at Michigan State University.

A revitalized Public Relations program, headed by Don Denham of National Chemsearch, has produced some fine coverage in the local newspapers and our National Trade magazines.

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What To Look For In 1971

The weather cannot be predicted but our industry will be furnished some new things in 1971 to help us combat the weather and its related problems.

SYSTEMIC FUNGICIDES

Because of the pressures being put on the manufacturers of chemicals, by the government, the manufacturers have found ways of producing pesticides that have little or no harmful effects on the environment. One of these new families of chemicals are the Systemic Fungicides. A systemic fungicide works similarly to a systemic insecticide in that the leaves and roots of the plants pick up the material from the foliar applications and translocates it throughout the plant. DuPont's Tersan 1991 has been one of the first released by the Government for sale to the golf courses. Other companies are waiting for clearance on their products. Cleary has a product which will be called, 3336.

MOWING EQUIPMENT

The hydraulic greens mowers are still the big news and bound to become bigger. Toro is now ready to hit the market as well as the WestPoint in the field of triplex greens mowers. Jacobsen has improved their already successful greens mower for 1971. Hydraulically operated fairway mowers and some new intermediate type mowers are also appearing on the scene for this new year.

POWER SAND TRAP RAKES

Several new time savers in trap rakes are available for this year. You will see some of them at the up coming turf show in Denver.

IRRIGATION

This is perhaps the fastest growing field in our industry. After all these

years we are finally receiving some attention from the sprinkler industry. They are actually making sprinklers for turf. To date, we have been using agricultural equipment. Automatic equipment is being improved and systems are being tailor made for the individual club and its Superintendent. The field of irrigation is moving so fast that some of the systems installed five years ago are obsolete.

FERTILIZERS

More and better formulations for 1971. The trend seems to be toward less fertilizer on the fairways (to slow up the vigorous growth that is so detrimental during periods of stress) and more fertilizer, of the proper analysis, on greens and tees. The key here is; proper analysis. Many superintendents are finding out through soil tests that they may have nutritionally unbalanced soil, so they are buying fertilizers which contain their specific needs. This allows them to balance the soil for healthier turf.

HERBICIDES

The last remaining weed problem of any consequence is *Poa annua*. 1971 will be a year when the superintendents will take a stand against *Poa annua* and rid themselves of this pest. Arsenical programs around the country have been successful, but this is a product that may become the victim of the government's new program to eliminate all pollutants.

"Balan", and "PO-SAN" are two excellent products each of which has a different purpose and timing. Both are readily available.

Crabgrass, clover, dandelions, knotweed and chickweed are all weeds of the past - so let's get POA!

Major Contributions To Turfgrass Culture by the MSU Turfgrass Research Group

- Delineated the major causes of turfgrass winter injury: (a) low temperature, (b) desiccation and (c) snow mold diseases. Showed suffocation or gas toxicities under ice sheets to be of no significance.
- Developed an effective granular fungicide for *Typhula* blight control.
- Shown Demosan to be as effective as the heavy metal fungicides in controlling *Typhula* blight.
- Developed and demonstrated the effectiveness of dual-purpose winter protection covers for intensively maintained turfs.
- Found that direct low temperature injury can be minimized culturally through (a) proper surface and sub-surface drainage, (b) a lower, judicious nitrogen fertility level, (c) an N-K nutritional balance of 3 to 1, and (d) low soil arsenic levels.
- Shade application studies showed disease and a favorable microenvironment for disease development to be the major limiting factors in growing turfgrasses under shade trees, rather than competition for light, water or nutrients.
- Showed the importance of water temperature in influencing the submersion tolerance of turfs.
- Defined the relative tolerance of the major turfgrass species to (a) low temperature stress and (b) submersion.
- Developed and released a new red fescue variety - Wintergree.
- Conducted a continuing program of turfgrass varietal evaluation for Michigan of the bentgrasses, bluegrasses, fescues and ryegrasses. It has been one of the most comprehensive in existence.
- Developed improved methods of roadside establishment in Michigan involving proper (a) seed mixture (a minimum of 20% each of Kentucky bluegrass, red fescue and ryegrass), (b) seeding rate (80# per acre), (c) seedbed fertilization (80# each of N P2O5, and K2O per acre), and (d) mulching (two tons of straw plus 10 gallons of asphalt per acre or Soil Retention Mat).
- Demonstrated hydroseeding to be quite inferior to shallow soil incorporation and rolling in achieving rapid uniform turfgrass establishment under droughty Michigan conditions.
- Developed a method for experimentally evaluating the rooting ability of sodded turfs.
- Showed that sod rooting was most rapid when (a) placed on moist rather than dry soil, (b) maintained at a relatively low nitrogen level prior to harvest, and (c) harvested at 0.4 to 0.6 inch in depth.
- Found no difference in the rooting ability of sod grown on organic or mineral soil.
- Found high levels of nitrogen fertilization to increase the incidence of fairy ring.
- Demonstrated that *Fusarium* blight disease development could be minimized by avoiding turfgrass moisture stress through proper irrigation practices.
- Developed a method for chemical control of *Fusarium* blight.
- Studies of *Poa annua* strains from 4 states showed that two major extremes existed with all degrees of variation occurring within these extremes. The extremes are (a) the classical annual bunch type which is a prolific seed producer and (b) a perennial, creeping type which is a low seed producer.
- Showed seed germination of *Poa annua* to be highest under alternating day-night temperature in the 55 to 75 range and to cease at soil temperature of 80°F or higher.
- Renovation studies on *Poa annua* Con

**Best Wishes
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W. F. Miller Mower Co.

MSU cont.

- Advanced the basic pool of knowledge regarding the mechanism of high temperature growth stoppage in grasses.
- Showed that as little as a 4 mph wind can reduce the maximum temperatures a bentgrass turf by 10 to 15°F.
- Found the timing of syringing during heat stress can be critical in the degree of turfgrass heating that occurs. syringing 1 to 2 hours before the 2:00 PM maximum is preferred.
- Shown that mid-September nitrogen fertilization increases the incidence of *Typhula* blight compared to August or October fertilizations.
- Found that the application of more than 1 pound of nitrogen per 1,000 square feet in any one application results in the exhaustion of the carbohydrate reserve.
- Shown that winter color retention of turfs cannot be achieved by late fall fertilization under Michigan conditions.
- Shown placement of phosphorus on the soil surface caused a suppression of turfgrass seed germination compared to soil incorporation.
- Developed a rapid, reliable experimental method of measuring sod strength.
- Ascertained the relative sod strengths achieved by various (a) turfgrass varieties, (b) seeding rates, (c) bluegrass blends, (d) bluegrass - red fescue mixtures, (e) mowing heights and (f) nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium fertilization practices.
- Studied the mechanism of sod heating during shipment and shown that the degree of heating can be reduced by (a) mowing at a lower height of 0.75 inch, (b) removing clippings, (c) using a low level of nitrogen nutrition, and/or (d) harvesting at a low as soil temperature as possible.
- Developed a method of pelletizing and utilizing the clippings from mowing turfs.

dominant fairways showed that bentgrass establishment was best when (a) used in combination with vertical mow-

ing and vegetative kill with sodium arsenite, (b) vegetative plantings were made rather than seeding, and (c) post-planting *Poa annua* suppression program is followed.

- Developed an experimental (incline plane) method for evaluating the surface quality of greens.
- Found ball roll distance was increased somewhat by (a) spiking, (b) coring or (c) light topdressing while mowing at 2 to 3 day intervals seriously impaired the distance of ball roll.
- Developed a rapid, microtechnique for studying the biological decomposition of thatch.
- Shown that thatch decomposition is favored by a pH between 6.0 and 7.0 and can be stimulated by certain enzymes and enzyme pressures.
- Shown that plant parts or turfgrass species having a higher lignin content are more prone to thatching.

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As your Scotts Technical Representative, I'd like to share Scotts most current turf grass research and development information with you. With this information, perhaps we can work together toward meeting your turf grass objectives.

Charles Croley

715 Washington St. / Lapeer, Mich. 48446
Phone: 313/664-8266

The Changing Times

Submitted by Norman C. Johnson, Fort Meyers Golf Club, Fort Meyers, Florida

Everything is farther than it used to be. It's twice as far from my house to the station now, and they've added a hill that I've just noticed. The trains leave sooner, too, but I've given up running for them because they go faster than they used to.

Seems to me they are making staircases steeper than in the old days. The risers are higher and there are more of them, because I've noticed it's harder to make two at a time. It's all one can do to make one step at a time.

Have you noticed the small print they are using lately? Newspapers are getting farther and farther away when I hold them, and I have to squint to make out the news. Now it's getting ridiculous to suggest that a person of my age needs glasses, but it's the only way I can find out what's going on without someone's reading aloud to me, and that isn't much help because everyone seems to speak in such a low voice that I can scarcely hear.

Times sure are changing. The material in my clothes, I notice, shrinks in certain places (you know, like around the waist, or in the seat). Shoe laces are so short they are next to impossible to reach.

Even the weather is changing. It's getting colder in winter and the summers are hotter than in the good old days. Snow is so much heavier when I shovel it, and rain is so much wetter

that I have to wear rubbers. I guess the way they build windows now makes drafts more severe.

People are changing, too. For one thing they are younger than they used to be when I was their age. On the other hand, people my own age are so much older than I am. I realize that my generation is approaching middle age.

I ran into my roommate the other night, and he had changed so much that he didn't recognize me. "You've put on a little weight, Bob," I said. "It's this modern food," Bob replied. "It seems to be more fattening."

I got to thinking about poor Bob this morning while I was shaving. Stopping for a moment, I looked at my reflection in the mirror. They don't use the same kind of glass in mirrors any more.

- Author Unknown

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Golf Course Superintendents Association of America

MEMBERSHIP

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America is an international organization with over 3,000 members in the United States, Canada and other countries.

LOCAL CHAPTERS

Total of 85; 60 affiliated, 5 associated and 20 unclassified.

HISTORY

Organized on September 13, 1926, as the National Association of Greenskeepers of America; name changed to The Greenskeeping Superintendents Association in 1938; became the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America in 1951.

OBJECTIVES

Dedicated to better turf and better golf, specifically:

- To promote research and the interchange of scientific and practical knowledge relating to the care of golf courses and turfgrass operations.

- To emphasize more efficient and economical golf course operations and to increase prestige for GCSAA and its individual members as well as the profession of golf course superintendency, which encompasses the production, maintenance and improvement of turfgrass.

- To encourage cooperation with other associations and organizations whose interests parallel or complement those of GCSSA and to stress justice, benevolence and education to and for its members.

ACTIVITIES

INTERNATIONAL TURFGRASS CONFERENCE AND SHOW sponsored

annually by the GCSSA; recognized as the most important and outstanding annual forum of the turfgrass industry. Special emphasis placed on golf turf development and its allied fields. The Equipment Show, a show within a show, enables manufacturers and suppliers to exhibit the latest products designed for golf course maintenance. First meeting held in Chicago in March 1927.

SCHOLARSHIP AND RESEARCH FUND

separately incorporated in 1956 to fulfill a recognized obligation to the future of golf through financial assistance to qualified and deserving students seeking careers in golf turf. Research grants are directed toward original research and to further expand knowledge of turf and turf management practices. *Nearly \$200,000 has been distributed to worthy students as original research since the fund's inception. In 1970-71 a total of \$21,300 was awarded to 62 scholarship recipients and five research grants were made totaling \$5,000.* Individuals and groups are encouraged to contribute to the Fund.

THE GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENT, GCSSA's official magazine, published specifically for the golf course superintendent and is issued four times a year.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY published annually.

THE GOLF SUPERINTENDENT'S JOURNAL

Primary objective: to promote efficient, economical and up-to-date maintenance on golf courses. Duties: keeping tee fairways, greens and landscaping in tiptop shape; purchase, storage and

Cont. on next page

GCSAA cont.

inventory of equipment and supplies; hiring training and directing personnel; keeping records on expenditures, weather and material application; preparation and administration of annual budget for his department; making reports on planning and progress to green committee; working with other

committees and department heads; and progressive education by participating in GCSAA chapter activities, reading turf and golf publications and attending Turf Conferences.

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Farmington, Michigan 48024
Contact, Mr. Fred Lindstrom, Chairman of Greens.

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Kimberly Oaks Country Club
(Near Saginaw)
Send resume to: Mr. John Sames, 856
Cavell, Westland, Michigan 48150
Phone: Off. 337-5357, Res. GA 2-677

SEEKING POSITION - As Golf Course Superintendent
William Rakozy
117 Harvard
Auburn Heights, Michigan 48057
Phone: (313) 852-0140

Age 24, Married with one child.
B.S. Degree from Michigan State University in Agriculture with a speciality in turfgrass management.
Work experience as a Natural Resource Manager with a large regional parks organization in the Detroit area.

SEEKING POSITION - As Golf Course Superintendent
Anthony P. Goodley III
2300 Avenet Ferry Road, J-5
Raleigh, North Carolina 27606

I am presently a senior at North Carolina State University and will be graduating first part of May 1971. Being a native Michigan, I would very much like to return.

SEEKING POSITION - As Golf Course Superintendent
Don Clemans
703 Orion Drive
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80906
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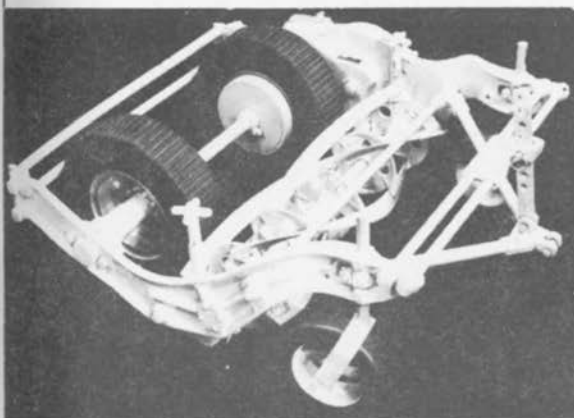
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**Or you may contact the next golf course supplier that calls on
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