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

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Association

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The President's Message

The economic forecast for 1973 looks like a good one. The purse strings should loosen up a little. Let's hope that your Club or business will have a profitable year.

The OSH Act will continue to make its presence felt. We can expect to hear more from them. Our particular areas of responsibility can be quite routinely handled by making necessary changes now to help comply to their laws. One area of concern that most Clubs would fail would be in electrical supply lines—most of them are inadequate and outlets are unsafe.

Be prepared to make corrections. Don't fight it. It's here to stay.

New equipment ideas continue to come from the manufacturers. Wait until you see some of the new ideas at the Equipment Show in Boston.

Fertilizers and chemicals are always improving. We are indebted to industry for continuing to supply us with materials that make our jobs easier.

The irrigation field is still in its infancy and 1973 will bring forth some

equipment that will revolutionize the industry.

Plant breeders continue to strive for that perfect grass. We are getting closer and closer to that goal.

Let's all hope and pray that 1973 will be that year that we've all been waiting for — that perfect year.

Your President,
Ted Woehrle



Ted Woehrle

P.S. Your Officers and Directors will all be doing their part in making this another banner year for the Michigan & Border Cities Golf Course Superintendents Association.

Robert Mauk Passes Away

The Superintendents of Michigan and Border Cities Golf Course Superintendents Association regret to announce the passing of Mr. Robert Thomas Mauk, born August 15, 1937, buried January 2, 1973. Mr. Mauk was Superintendent of Franklin Hills Country Club.



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Christmas Dinner Dance

The Edgewood Country Club was the site of our annual Christmas Dinner Dance. Seventy couples showed up for cocktails, dinner and music.

Host Ken McRae and his lovely wife, Elizabeth, are to be congratulated for their hopsitality.

Chairman Earl Prieskorn and his wife, Jean, provided each couple with a set of cocktail glasses with our crest painted on the glass. They will make a good conversation piece for a time to come.

The door prize was won by Mr. & Mrs. Clarence Wolfrom.

The cocktail party was sponsored by Acme Paint Co. (Ed Stallings), American Research Corp. (Herb), Century Supply Corp. (Ernie & Dick), Certified Laboratories, Inc. (Arnie),

Fairway Sales Co. (Jim), Harley Davidson Golf Carts (Bob), Hiram Godwin and Sons (Horace), R. P. Klein & Sons, Inc. (Ron), Lakeshore Equipment Supply Co. (Herb), Lawn Equipment Corp. (Bob, Bert & Gordy), Lubrication Engineering, Inc. (Charles), Michigan Turf Specialities (Doug), Sprinkler Irrigation Supply Co. (A.J. & Jim), W. F. Miller Co. (Hal), Modern Research Corp. (Bill), National Chemsearch Co. (Don), O.M. Scott Co. (Chuck), The Gunter Co. (Don & Bill), Terminal Sales Corp. (Frank), Turfgrass, Inc. (Gene), Turf Supplies, Inc. (Phil), USS Agri Chemical Co. (Russ) and Wilkie Turf Equipment Co. (Walter).

Thanks a million guys, for helping to make our party a success.

Continued on Next Page



Bob Prieskorn (left) presenting Jim Vlassis with Golf Trophy. Bob just completed 16 years on the Board of Directors. We'll miss you Bob.



"I WON! I WON! The first thing I've ever won!" Barbara Timmerman wishes she had won too. Jim really doesn't care.

... Christmas Dinner Dance



MBCGCSA President Ted Woehrle dancing with his wife, Mary.



Dr. Joe Vargas and his lovely wife.



Ted Lazaroff and wife Nadine? It can't be, she's too young - Nice try Ted.

June Hicks, Garden Editor of the Detroit News, and her escort for the evening, Joe Messana, were our honored guests for the evening. President Ted Woehrle presented her with an engraved charm bracelet from our association in appreciation for her help in preparing our weekly articles in the News.

Dr. and Mrs. Joe Vargas of Michigan State University were also present, along with Mrs. George Prieskorn, Sr. of Burroughs Farm.

Bob Prieskorn, retiring Chariman of the Golf Committee, presented Jim Vlassis with the golf trophy for his championship of 1972.

A small committee of girls supplied us with some of their handywork by making our centerpieces. They were: Elizabeth McRae, Jackie Hope, Norma Benham and Mary Gill. Thanks girls.

Club Manager, Max Richardson, did an outstanding job in decorating the club and once again his food was delicious.

Surprise guest was Bud Hooper and wife, member from Milwaukee.



Bob and Jackie Hope sitting one out.



Bud Hooper, member from Tripoli Golf Club, Milwaukee, Wis., and Mrs. Danny "Lucky" Uzelac.



Doug Forier and wife.



Clarence and wife — They were the lucky winners of door prize.

Ralph N. Cock Passed Away

Word comes to us from member Bob Williamson that an old member has passed away. Ralph Newton Cock, of the Ralph N. Cock Enterprises, died on November 12, 1972. Ralph was an Associate Member for many years. He was a resident of Windsor, Ontario.

Golf Day Host Needed

We are still looking for a club to host our annual Golf Day for 1973. If you would like to offer your club for this worthwhile cause, contact Roger Gill.

See masthead for telephone and address.

Meeting Hosts Needed

If you would like to host one of monthly meetings contact Gary Bartsch.

See masthead for telephone and address.

Return Roster Questionnaire

Remember to fill out your Roster questionnaire and return it to Bob Hope . . . NOW!

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Job Security Main Topic at December Meeting

The Holiday Inn in Southfield was the site for our December Meeting.

The main discussions included National affairs and instructions to the Voting Delegates, Bob Hope and Ted Lazaroff, and the subject of Superintendent Job Placement.

A great concern for our job security and placement was shown by a number of members. Several of the questions were: Is it possible to stop management enterprises from operating golf courses? Can we influence a club when

hiring a Superintendent? (Set minimum standards) Should we become involved in the placement of members at clubs?

The feeling about management companies was unanimous. *We are against them!* But there is little that we can do to stop it. What a club does about its operation is its own business and we cannot alter their decision.

Usually a club that finds itself in a position where it is floundering will grasp for straws in an attempt to save itself from failure and will easily be sold a management program.

This removes the burden of responsibility from their shoulders and gives them the feeling that their problems are being handled in a professional manner. As long as they are using qualified Superintendents in their operations we should not feel too badly about them.

Can we influence a club when they are hiring a Superintendent? Quite often the President is asked for help in suggesting names for a position. The only names ever offered are those that are presently unemployed and those who have requested help in relocating. We do not offer preferences — we cannot sit in judgement of a members' ability.

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Chairmen Appointed

President Ted Woehrle appointed the following committee chairmen at the December Board Meeting:

Education — Bill Milne

Arrangements — Gary Bartsch

Golf — George Prieskorn

Golf Day — Roger Gill

Asst. Chairman, Clem Wolfrom

Membership — Al Kaltz

Christmas Party — Gerald Gill

Publicity — Ward Swanson

A Patch of Green — Ted Woehrle and

Clem Wolfrom, Co-Editors

By-Laws — Gerald Gill

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ALBERT KALTZ
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Phone: Off. 268-2130, Res. 463-2092

Fill in the questionnaire below and mail to:

DATE _____

NAME OF INTERESTED PERSON _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Or you may contact the next golf course supplier who calls on you and give him the information needed for application.

December Meeting Cont.

The GCSAA does offer a placement service to its members. You can request all information about job openings as long as you are a member.

Universities are quite often approached for help in filling the position of Golf Course Superintendent. They have an obligation to their students in helping them locate employment. If a club hires such a student they certainly are aware of what they are doing. Many clubs are looking for that professional ability that college kids are supposed to have.

Should our association become involved in the placement of its members?

It would be great if it could be done in an honest manner that would seem equitable to all concerned. From experience learned by other locals we have found out that it doesn't work. It only creates hard feelings because someone will always feel that they

should have had the upper hand.

Here are a few possible solutions to the problem:

The Association cannot help a person keep his job, but we can keep our members informed of job openings. The GCSAA does this for its members in a very efficient manner. You simply notify them that you wish your name placed on their list.

Becoming a true professional golf course Superintendent may be the best way possible to protect your job or to help you find a new job.

If we continue to insist on being grass growers, and only grass growers, we leave the door open for a better qualified Superintendent to come in, or for a club to hire a General Manager that they feel will give them the professional management that all clubs are looking for.

We really have ourselves to blame for the present situation. Let's quit

Continued on Page 13

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Pruning Standards for Shade Trees

National Arborist Association

CLASS I FINE PRUNING

Removal of dead, dying, diseased, interfering, objectionable and weak branches.

Fine pruning shall consist of the removal of the described branches on the main trunks and limbs inside the leaf area and any that extend beyond this area. The described branches to 1/2" (size of dime) diameter may remain within the main leaf area to their full length.

This work must be accomplished with the following specifications:

A. All cuts to be made sufficiently close to the parent stem so that healing can readily start under normal conditions.

B. All limbs one inch in diameter

(size of a quarter) or over must be precut to prevent splitting. All branches 3-1/2" in diameter should be lowered by proper ropes to the ground.

C. Remove one of all crossed or rubbing branches where practicable so the removal will not leave large holes in general outline of the tree.

D. Paint all cuts old and new one inch in diameter (size of quarter) and over, with an approved tree wound dressing. On old wounds care is to be taken to paint exposed wood only.

E. On trees known to be diseased, tools are to be disinfected with alcohol after each cut and between trees, where there is known to be

Continued on Next Page



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Pruning Standards Cont.

danger of transmitting the disease on tools.

F. Old scars not healing properly and where callus growth is not already established are to be traced and painted, unless other treatment is designated.

G. All girdling roots visible to the eye, where practicable, should be treated as follows:

1. Cutting of root at either end.
2. Notching of root in center with chisel.
3. Removal of entire root without injury to bark or parent stem.
4. Report girdling roots.

H. Any structural weakness, decayed trunk or branches, split crotches, or branches, should be reported.

The National Arborist Association's "Pruning Standards for Shade Trees" will be continued in subsequent issues of "A Patch of Green."

December Meeting Cont.

hiding our heads in the sand and do something about it. Make yourself indispensable through your performance at your club and eventually all clubs will finally realize that the position of Golf Course Superintendent can only be filled by a qualified professional man — and you are that man!

Take advantage of our educational programs on the local level and attend some of the National programs that are offered.

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Carl's Comments

by **CARL H. SCHWARTZKOPF**,
Mid-Continent Agronomist
USGA - Green Section

Now that the end of another golf season is behind us, and the winter conferences are beginning to fill our calendar, this is an opportune time to take a moment or two to look over the past year and anticipate the year ahead.

The upcoming conferences make this easy to do, by meeting with fellow Superintendents and professional turf managers. Meeting with your peers provides a good time to exchange problems of the past summer and how you solved them; at the same time you can find out how he solved his. This interaction is a significant part of attending not only conferences and conventions, but also the local meetings of your association.

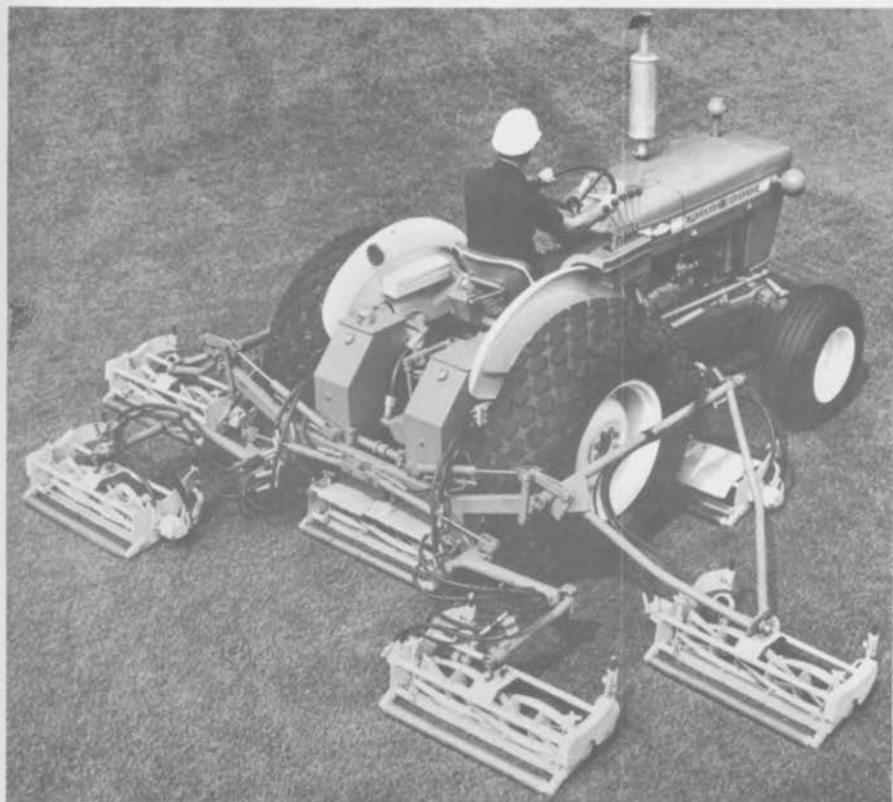
The formal part of conferences, the educational program, has some speakers that lull one to sleep with a monotone voice and volumes of boring statistical information. Fortunately, the majority of speakers do not fit this category. However, the remaining program can be very beneficial, especially when a person says to himself, "How can I use the information being presented to improve playing conditions at my course as well as make my tasks easier?"

The average turf conference has anywhere from 6 to 16 speakers a day, sometimes with many sessions running simultaneously. Think of the potential of an individual if he can use one or two ideas from each speaker heard. Also think how much easier and more efficient your responsibilities can be if you apply some of this new found knowledge.

It is hard to hear what a person says when his character speaks more loudly.

— Salada Tea Bag Tag

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