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

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#### "A Patch of Green"

31823 Utica Road, Fraser, Michigan 48026 (313) 293-3540

Published monthly by the Michigan and Border Cities Golf Course Superintendents Association

Circulation 1,050

Ted Woehrle, Oakland Hills C.C. Clem Wolfrom, Detroit Golf Club

Co-Editors

Blakeman Publications Graphic Arts/Circulation

#### ADVERTISING RATES

Double Page Spread	. \$100.00
Back Outside Page	65.00
Full Page	55.00
Half Page	35.00
Quarter Page	
Eighth Page	12.50
Sixteenth Page	
Classified Ad (per inch)	5.00

DISCOUNT RATES

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#### The President's Message

Sell your raffle tickets! With a little effort, we should all be able to sell at least \$50.00 worth. Ask your Pro and Manager to help.

9

Stress the importance of this worthwhile cause - Our 8th Annual Turfgrass research benefit - is very important to the game of golf.

Michigan State University is helping to solve turfgrass problems that we face here in Michigan. If we can receive just one point of information per year that might help us provide our golfers in Michigan with a better golf course to play on, than we have accomplished our goal.

See you all at Bay Pointe Golf Club on September 17, 1973.

Sign up a team to represent your Club.

Thanks, Your President, Ted Woehrle

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#### Leasing can be Avantageous

The following article is an excerpt from the May meeting minutes of the Rocky Mountain Golf Course Superintendents Association, extracted from the July 1973 issue of their 'Reporter.'

John Blend, representing the ECHO-LEASE Co., was the featured speaker in Cheyenne. His topic centered on the advantages of leasing, as opposed to buying, certain pieces of golf course maintenance equipment.

The equipment leasing business is not new in many phases of industrial operations, but it is on the innovative side pertaining to golf course operations other than golf cars.

Leasing is an old tool that isn't

#### Look for More Trouble?

Be thankful for the troubles of your job. They provide about half your income. Because if it were not for the things that go wrong, the difficult people you have to deal with, and the problems and unpleasantness of your working day, someone could be found to handle your job for half of what you are being paid.

It takes intelligence, resourcefulness, patience, tact and courage to meet the troubles of any job. That is why you hold your present job. And it may be the reason you aren't holding down an even bigger one.

If all of us would start to look for more troubles, and learn to handle them cheerfully and with good judgement, as opportunities rather than irritations, we would find ourselves getting ahead at a surprising rate. For it is a fact that there are plenty of big jobs waiting for men and women who aren't afraid of the troubles connected with them.

readily understood by many. If one has \$5,000 to spend and needs \$25,000 worth of equipment, should he borrow the balance or lease? To borrow the balance, or \$20,000, for 5 years would amount to \$3,700 in interest (at 8% on a declining balance rate) or the cost of a new triplex greens mower or pick-up. The total cost of \$25,000 worth of equipment would be at least \$28,700. Wouldn't it be better to take the \$5,000, pay cash for some of the equipment, lease the rest, for a few hundred dollars a year (with a large percentage of this money being applied to a later option-to-purchase price) and take the entire leasing cost as a tax deduction?

Leasing company loans are much easier to obtain than purchase loans. Leasing allows one to pocket dollars on a pay-as-you-go basis. It does not restrict one's borrowing capacity regarding other equipment or construction because it is not carried on your books as a fixed asset of debenture, yet it allows you to obtain the piece of equipment you most need when you most need it.

The man behind the beard is Gene Johanningsmeir. Gene grew the beard in celebration of South Lyon's Centennial.



#### **USGA OFFICIALS AT OAKMONT**



L to R: Lee Record, Mid-Continent Director USGA; Stan Zontek, Eastern Agronomist USGA; Al Radko, Director, Eastern Region and National Research Director USGA; Bill Bengeyfield, USGA Director, Western Region and Publications Editor; Lou Scalzo, Superintendent, Oakmont Country Club, host; James B. Moncrief, USGA Director, Southern Region; and Holman Griffin, USGA Mid-Atlantic Director.



Above: One of Oakmont's famous bunkers . . . Below; Oakmont's #18.



#### **New Fungicide Offered**

St. Louis, Mo., Mallinckrodt Chemical Works is introducing FUNGO (TM) 50 brand turf fungicide, a broad spectrum, systemic agent, based on the methyl form of thiophanate, for control of a wide variety of turf diseases, according to an announcement by Stan Frederiksen, Manager of

#### Wisconsin Golf Turf Symposium - Oct . 24-25

Thatch will be the subject discussed throughout the day and a half Wisconsin Golf Turf Symposium this year. The dates are October 24 and 25. Co-sponsors are the Wisconsin Golf Superintendents Association Course and the Milwaukee Sewerage Commis-Outstanding, authoritative. speakers will cover all phases of the thatch problem. Among them are A. M. Radko, Dr. J. B. Beard, Dr. Duble, Tom Mascaro, Dr. Al Turgeon, Dr. Mal Shurtleff, Ted Woerhle, Clem Wolfram, L. G. Dubose, and C. G. Wilson.

Thatch is a greater problem on fairways than greens due to the acreage involved. This will be a major portion of discussions, so the Symposium will be of interest to everyone involved in any phase of turfgrass management.

Specialty Agricultural Products for the firm.

Competitively priced and competitive at the cost-in-use level, FUNGO controls most of the important diseases which attack turf. At modest treatment rates, it controls Brown Patch, Dollar Spot, Fusarium Patch (pink snow mold), and Copper Spot. At somewhat higher rates, carefully drenched in, FUNGO-50 readily controls Fusarium Blight (Fusarium roseum), Stripe Smut, and Powdery Mildew.

According to this announcement, FUNGO may be tank-mixed with KOBAN R fungicide to achieve an even broader spectrum of control, including Pythium, or with THIRAMAD R, maneb, or zineb for control of leaf spot and/or melting out diseases during spring and early fall.

Highly effective, and quite economical in use, FUNGO is safe on the finest turf. Rates as high as eight times the minimums have thus far produced no turf damage or discoloration.

More turf improvement and protection chemicals are in the development stage at Mallinckrodt, as the Company approaches its objective of offering a complete line of turf products through its nationwide network of more than 100 distributors.

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#### July MBCGCSA Meeting



Once again, the Minto family owners and operators of Davidson have been the hosts of one of our meetings. As usual, the gracious hospitality was greatly appreciated.

The course was in excellent condition, the cocktail hour and the delicious steak dinner were outstanding and the speaker was informative.

Dr. Bill Daniel, Purdue University, gave us another look at *Poa annua* control and some related problems.

After several questions from the

#### Importance of Training

1st, training serves to improve employee skill, which in turn, increases the quantity and quality of output.

2nd, the relative amount of equipment and material required to produce a unit of output is decreased.

3rd, executive effort will tend to shift from the disagreeable need of correcting mistakes to the more pleasant tasks of planning work and of encouraging expert employees.

4th, the various increases in productivity will find a reflection in increased returns to employees.

5th, and last, the general tenor of relations between employers and employees, as well as their individual satisfaction, will tend to be more wholesome, resulting in more pleasant and satisfactory working conditions.

All these objectives, it is worth repeating, may be sought without adding to company budgets. The money is being spent, so it may as well be spent wisely. floor were answered, we threw him a curve by asking him how we might live with *Poa*. He answered in this manner, stressing four points.

 Keep Poa healthy - Disease, insect and weed free.

insect and weed free.

2. Keep turf young - The older the Poa, the weaker it becomes.

3. Keep it ventilated - aerify frequently when actively growing.

 Keep it poor - do not overfeed - a lush plant is more susceptible to wilt.

When adversity strikes - overseed with desirable grasses, make certain seed is put in contact with the soil.

#### **MSU Hosts Researchers**

The state of Michigan and Michigan State University had the opportunity of hosting 45 turfgrass researchers and educators from throughout the world on June 26, and 27, 1973. This group attended the Second International Turfgrass Research Conference held at Harrogate, England, in 1969, where Dr. James B. Beard, Turfgrass Physiologist, Michigan State University, served as the first chairman of the International Turfgrass Society.

The 45 guests from a dozen countries had the opportunity of viewing the turfgrass laboratory, greenhouse, and field plot research being conducted at Michigan State University. It is a privilege for the state of Michigan to host this distinguished group of turfgrass researchers from throughout the world.

--Dr. James B. Beard Professor MSU Dept. of Crop & Soil Sciences

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A unique mowing tractor, designed to give more cutting capacity to one man and one machine.

The Parkmaster with its 9 hand adjustable Spartan† mowers has an 18'6" cutting width. Mows up to 12 acres an hour, saving time and manpower. Cuts mowing costs up to 50%.

Gang units are controlled by a hydraulic system that picks them up or sets them down one at a time avoiding obstacles and saving more valuable time.

The Parkmaster folds up into an 8 foot width and transports at speeds up to 50 mph. It's also available in 5 and 7 gang models.

Check into Our Gang. The Parkmaster 9 from Toro.



WIDTH OF CUT: Cutting width is 18'5", which is approximately 28% wider than our 7 unit model, and which can effect up to 35% savings in mowing time.



#### PARKMASTER 9



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ALBERT KALTZ Maple Lane Golf Club Sterling Heights, Michigan 48077 Phone:

Fill in the questionaire below and m	ail to: Off. 2	68-2130, Res.	463-2892
	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.

#### Wizards and the Landscape Contractors

Once upon a time (like a year ago) a band of knowledgeable wizards in the form of young wood preserving specialists (Continental Wood Preservers) analyzed the wisdom of the common practice of using used railroad ties for landscape purposes.

Lo and Behold! (a common term used by wizards) they discovered the following:

Used Railroad Ties (Brand X)

- 1. Were discarded by the railroads because they were rotten (amazing no?)
- 2. That when re-installed for landscape purposes, a high percentage of used ties would last no longer than 1-2 years (wow!)
- 3. That used railroad ties were heavier than hell, resulting in high installation costs and compensation

#### MSU Field Day September 13

September 13, 1973. Michigan Turfgrass Field Day, Crop Science Field Lab, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan. Contact: Mr. Richard Anda or Mr. James Wilkinson, Turfgrass Extension Associates, Department of Crop and Soil Sciences, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan 48823

claims (hernias in small boys and fairy princes).

- 4. Used railroad ties were normally only available in 6x8-8 which limited design caused extra expense in cutting, etc.
- 5. Used railroad ties resulted in unhappy customers, with call backs and extra expense to the landscape contractor.
- 6. Used railroad ties are not straight, they lay poorly and invariably have split ends.

Forsooth! the wizards further discovered that evil merchants had also discovered that used railroad ties shouldn't be used in the Fairy Princesses Garden (Concession to 20th Century), and decided to hood-wink the people by offering timbers from the nearby forest dipped in magic potions. The wizards from Continental Wood Preservers (good guys!) investigated the new product of the Evil Merchants (Brand XX) and discovered the following:

Native Hardwoods Dipped in Oil or Tar Preservatives

1. In many cases would last no longer than untreated wood, because the species of wood used (poplar-beech-maple-birch,etc.) when placed in ground contact, deteriorated within 1 - 2 years.

Next Page

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#### Wizards Cont.

2. There was no quality control or testing program to assure the proper application of the preservatives used.

3. The preservatives used were dangerous to handle, messy on clothes, tracked into castles, and retarded or killed plant life.

4. The timbers were still heavy as hell, with hernias running rampant throughout the kingdom.

5. Availability of sizes other than 6x8-8 was limited or non-existant.

The Wizards (good guys) exposed another misconception. Some Evil Merchants represented Redwood Lumber as the greatest for Landscaping and in ground contact. The Wizards agree that Redwood is superior to most species of lumber that hasn't been pressure treated. However, they discovered that Federal Agencies require that Foundation - Grade Stamped Redwood be used on their projects, because all grades of redwood do not provide an acceptable

degree of protection against decay and infestation, and in fact, perform no better than brands X and XX. The Wizards further discovered that it was very difficult to obtain Foundation - Grade Stamped Redwood Lumber anywhere in the Kingdom because the trees didn't develop enough of this grade.

Now Comes the Good Part!!!

The Wizards (Continental Wood Preservers) and Merlin the Magician (Osmose Wood Preserving Co.) undertook to rid the Kingdom of Brands X and XX, and to provide the Landscape Contractors with a timber that would last forever-after.

Behold!!!

Evergreen Landscape Timbers

1. Manufactured from species selected for their ability to be properly pressure treated.

2. Manufactured on a Chipper-Canter to produce a pleasant, distinctive Continued on Next Page



Wizards Cont.

hand-hewn appearance, Double End trimmed too.

- 3. Pressure Treated with CCA-B (K-33) the superior preservative (no failures in 21 years of Government Stake Tests) Quality Controlled by inspection of American Wood Preservers Bureau, and treated to LP-22 Standards as specified by the Government.
- Product is clean to handle, non staining, and non-injurious to life forms.
- Product is pleasant green color, and paintable if desired.
- 6. Available in a multitude of widths, thicknesses and lengths, producing a neater job at less cost (why over-specify?)
- Easy to handle, much lighter than hardwoods.
- 8. Economical original cost comparable to used ties, or dipped hardwoods - In place cost is less - No headaches with call backs from unhappy clients.
- 9. Available Continental maintains carloads of Treated Timbers on hand.

"Evergreen Landscape Timbers" are specified by prominent Landscape Architects and utilized by leading Landscape Contractors.

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#### APATHY -A Sign of the Times

We are all guilty of apathy from time to time. It is easy to become content and satisfied with our jobs because of the nature of our work.

Perhaps this is the reason that we sometimes become indifferent and phlegmatic about our profession. Who really cares? Massive indifference is the thing today.

Our local chapter as well as our National Association has been offering a service to the golf course Superintendents in the form of education programs and few are participating.

The National conducted a traveling Seminar this past year and four of our members attended.

The Certification Program has now certified 146 golf course Superintendents throughout America - Michigan has only seven of these 146 - a poor representation to say the least.

Isn't it about time that you became interested in bettering yourself and in so doing, bettering your profession? We all stand to gain - pitch in and help! Quit letting the other guy do it.

#### **Books Now Available**

Both books used in the certification examination questions are now available in the:

Farmington Public Library 32737 W. 12 Mile Road Farmington, Michigan 48024

The books may be requested by libraries in the inter-library system.

Book titles are:

- 1. Practical Turfgrass Management
- 2. Principles of Turfgrass Culture Author: John Madison Call Number: 635, 964

Ted Woehrle

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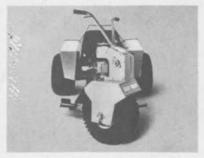
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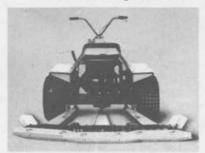
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