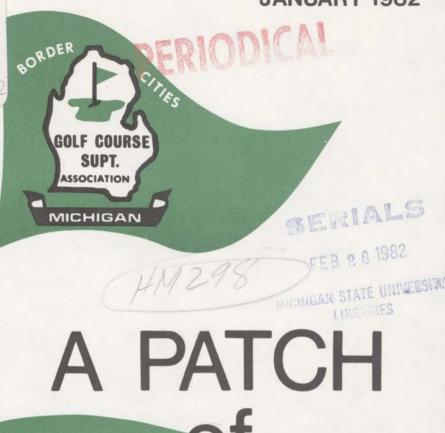
**JANUARY 1982** 



## A PAICH Of GREEN

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



MICHIGAN & BORDER CITIES GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION

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### MY LIFE IN GOLF

1923 thru 1981 Maple Lane Golf Club 1931 thru 1981

Meadowbrook Golf Club in August 1923, hired extra help to screen enough topsoil to topdress all of thier 18 cuppy fescue fairways. I got a job for 3 months with Wm. Elphick, the superintendent. In the spring of 1924 I went to work at Meadowbrook, mowing rough & fairways with horses and a catapillar tractor. In 1925 Meadowbrook purchased 2 used Ford tractors; the kind you cranked all forenoon to use in the afternoon. Not any mechanics in those days to keep them in good condition.

Clarence Wolfrom - Recievers Mich & Border Cities GCS Associations "Destinguished Service Award"

One of the highlights of the annual Christmas party on Dec. 4, 1981, was the presentation of our Associations first "Distinquished Service Award" to Clarence Wolfrom SR. in Recognition and Appreciation of his 50 YEARS of Dedicated and Outstanding Service to our Association. And also for his significant and innovative contributions to our profession which has served as an inspiration to all.

Past President Jim Timmerman made

the presentation.

Congratulations Clarence and thanks for all your hard work during the formative years of our profession and association. We are grateful. In 1926 Bill Elphick the Supt. moved to Western Golf Club to build their golf course. I was taken along as one of the foreman of construction, to help build a golf course layed out by Donald Ross. It was there I learned a lot about golf course construction.

In may of 1927, I signed my first contract as supt. of Jackson Masonic Golf Course, to finish construction of the course and stay on as supt. In January 1928, Masonic Golf Course went bankrupt. A few of the good members chipped in and paid my contract to the end. We then moved back to Livonia. Mich.

On Feb. 13, 1931, I was hired as superintendent of Maple Lane Golf Course. The last nine of the first 18 holes had just been built the year before. Two more 18 hole courses have been added since, to

Continued on Page 13





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### Pruning-Why, When, How

by David L. Hensley

Pruning is an integral part of the maintenance of any landscape site. Correct pruning helps maintain vigorous plants and can aid the supply of additional energy for development of flowers, fruit and limbs.

Pruning is most generally conducted to control the size of plants and bring overgrown plants back into bounds. Extreme or radical pruning to control size can be eliminated by correct plant selection. Don't try to make a large growing plant fill the need by extensive

annual pruning.

Pruning aids the survival chances of newly planted trees and shrubs by compensating for reduced root systems. The tops of bare-root plants should be pruned back 1/3 to 1/2. Balled-andburlapped and container-grown material require les severe thinning but still may require some reduction of the leaf surface.

Pruning aids in maintaining the health and appearance of the plant. Minor insect and disease infestatios can often be controlled by removing the affected portions. Damaged and dead wood

should also be removed.

Future flower and fruit development can often be stimulated by correct pruning. Removal of shrivelled and faded flowers and fruit allows more available carbohydrates for develop-

ment of next season's buds.

Personal and property damage can be reduced or avoided by removal of lower hanging and dangerous limbs. Other maintenance procedures, such as moving or spraying can also be speeded or aided by removing low limbs.

### When

Timing is one of the most important factors in correct pruning and is usually based on the flowering and fruiting habit of the plant. Trees and shrubs that bloom before the end of June produce flower buds on the previous seasons's growth. Plants, such as Magnolia sp. and Forsythia sp., should be pruned immediately after flowering. Plants that flower after the end of June, such as Buddleia sp. (Butterflybush) and Hibiscus syriacus (shrub althea), form flower buds on the current season's growth. These species should be pruned in the winter or early spring.

Plants valued for their fruit should be pruned in the winter or early spring after the fruit drops. A maintenance schedule which divides plants into pruning groups based on flowering or fruiting will aid the operation and

reduce confusion.

Evergreens, both broadleafed and narrowleafed, can be pruned any time the wood is not frozen. Pruning of most conifers every two or three years id essential for size control, since new growth seldom arises from older wood. The shoots of coniferous evergreens, such as Pinus sp. (pine) can be pinched back in the spring to thicken these plants. Pinch the candle back about half way when the new needles are about 1/4 inch long.

Most shade trees should be trained while young. Establish alternate branching and remove weak branch angles or crotches to prevent problems in later years. Shade trees are generally pruned in late winter or early spring. Some trees, such as Ulmus sp. (elm), Betula sp. (birch), Cornus sp. (dogwood), Acer sp. (maple) and Cladastrus Iutea (yellowwood) are known as "bleeders." These plants may be best pruned in summer or fall. The sap dripping from sdpring wounds will not harm the plant but may be objectionable to clients.

Late summer pruning should be avoided. New growth may be encour-

Continued on Page 17

### 16th Annual Golf Day

Nets \$13,000.00 Plus

Chairman, Charlie Gaige and his comnitties reported that this year's Turfgrass Benefit Day was once again a successful fund raising project.

The format didn't change much from ast years record setting day only the

names changed.

Because of the heavy rains just prior to October 5 – several clubs had to excuse themselves from participating. The teams from these clubs found other clubs to play – over 400 golfers partici-

pated in the event.

After playing golf at one of the generous clubs they all met at Bay Pointe Golf Club for cocktails, dinner and a "Millionaire Party". Once again we thank Ernie Fuller and his staff for the fine facilities and warm hospitality.

Pam Rose – Asst. Mgr. Rick York – Asst. Supt.

Ben Taliaferro, Chairman of the "Millionaires Party", would like to thank the following helpers for their work – Bob Olsen & Wife, Kurt Kraly,

Bob Neumaier, George Prieskorn, Gerald Prieskorn, Mark Roberts, Don Dupuis, Walter Trombley, Peter Evans, James Vince, Ed Heineman Bruce Wolfrom, and John Kertland. Chairman, Jerry Stencil of the score keepers committee, had Jim Brocklehurst and Jim Racine help him tabulate scores – we thank them for their support.

Arnold Collens helped collect ticket money and dinner tickets at the door. The highlight of the evening came when the winning raffle ticket was pulled and the winner of trip to Hawaii or \$1,500 was announced as non other than Arnold Collens of Chemline Inc., Farmington Hills, a class F member of

our Association.

Congratulations Arnie!!
Thanks a lot Charlie Gaige and your wife Andra (who really did most of the letter writing and mailing of information). We all appreciate your efforts.



AL RADKO. NATIONAL DIRECTOR, RETIRES Distinguished Green Section Career Spanned 35 Years

Alexander M. Radko, National Director of the Green Section of the United States Golf Association, has announced his retirement effective November 30. "A leader of national prominence, a dedicated educator, a professional with great personal character," are but a few of the comments which have been used to describe Al Radko, a man whose 35-year career with the Green Section has been marked by many outstanding achievements and contributions to the turf management field. Throughout his career as a Research Assistant, Agronomist, Eastern Regional Director and finally National Director, Radko has provided untiring service to golf course superintendents, the turfgrass industry and the game of

Born and raised in Yonkers, N.Y., Al first became interested in golf as a caddie at the Sunningdale Country Club. The experience made a lasting impression which guided him into his

career in golf.

Fertilizing Trees With Nitrogen **Gives Best Results** 

In a series of trials at the University of Tennessee the application of nitrogenous fertilizer increased the amount of shade cast by sugar maples, tulip trees and pin oaks over a seven or eight year trial period by 2.7 to more than 4.5 times? Height and trunk diameters increased drastically, from 60% to more than double. With heavy nitrogen at the rate equivalent to 120 square

feet of surface. The fertilizer must be out near the feeding roots which spread 134 to 21/2 times as far as the branches. They are shallower then you think, mostly at 4 to 6 inches below the soil surface in this study. Lime and phosphorus had almost no effect, except a very slightly greater trunk diameter. There was little effect the first two years of the experiment following transplanting, so the changes in later years were even more drastic. This does not mean that you would have a long wait to see results if you treat established trees in your own place. For one set of previously unfertilized plants were fertilized near the end of the trial period. In the first year the response was 32 inches more height for sugar maples, 39 inches for tulip trees and 42 inches for pin oaks, compared with a yearly average of 11, 8 and 2.3 inches when they were unferitlized.

-Dawes Arboretum Newsletter March, 1980

Neil MacPhee has Hole-in-One While playing in our golf day, Neil MacPhee, Chairman of the Golf Association of Michigan's Green Section Committee, had a hole-in-one at Plum Hollow Golf Club. This was his "first ever" and it happened on the 190 yard -9th hole. He used a three iron. Mr. MacPhee is a member at the Essex C.C. of Windsor, Ontario, Canada. Another great shot was made at the 492 yard 15th hole at Oakland Hills C.C., Jim Hardy, the assistant Superintendent under Supt. Bob Pontius at Franklin Hills. Jim had an Eagle two of almost 200 yards. - Nice going guys.



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A TERSAN 1991/Daconil 2787 tank mix will give you consistent performance against brown patch and dollar spot-the two most troublesome diseases on turf each summer. You'll also get strong action on leaf spot and other important diseases. It's the kind of performance superintendents depend on when a quality course can't be compromised.

### Put the proven performers together for even better

Tank mixing brings other advantages. too. With TERSAN 1991 in your tank, you get systemic action for protection from within the turf plant. Disease control is longer lasting and is less affected by rainfall or frequent irrigation. Tank mixing fungicides with different modes of action also reduces chances of benzimidazole resistance. You help insure the long-term effectiveness of TERSAN 1991 in your disease control program.

This year, plan on using TERSAN 1991 in combination with Daconil 2787. It's the tank mix turf diseases can't match.



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My Life In Golf, cont.

make it the 54 hole golf course it is today. With suggestions from O.J. Noer, we were able to build a modern construction for ow maintenance with heavy public play. We also rebuilt the original 18 greens & rees. We did 3 holes per year after Sept. 5, when most play was over.

We installed the first watered system in 1936, making Maple Lane the first public golf course to have watered fairways.

In 1942, I received a letter from the 1st Air Force, Washington D.C. to serve as agronomist at Selfridge Field Air Force Base, or be Classified 1-A in the draft. I took Selfridge Field for 4 years. I looked after Maple Lane mornings, evenings, & Sundays. With the help of a good foreman we got by.

I joined the Michigan & Border Cities Golf Course Supt. Association in 1926 as a Class B member. My first official job was to collect the dues from the members. We had about 16 at that time with only 3 paid. I enjoyed going to the M.B.C.G.S.A. meetings; play the course, talk with fellow supt. and hear a good turf speaker. No matter how poor the course there was, I always saw something on the course I

could use at Maple Lane. I was elected a Director of M.B.G.C.S.A. in 1936 and served either as Director, Vice President, or President for 25 consecutive years. To this association I owe a lot of whatever success I have had. The friendly info of the then Old Times, helped me over a lot of rough spots. For

this I am very thankful.

In 1931 I attended my first Turf Conference at Michigan State University, 5 days long at that time. We all pooled our turf knowledge from all over Michigan and parts of Canada. Along with the many Professors, we made our Conference

worth while.

In 1954 I served as chairman of a committee to form the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation. First I was vice president, then president in 1956. With the meager beginning in those days, it is very gratifying to see the Hancock Turf Center we have now at Michigan State University. Also I had the pleasure of seeing the first man to get a degree at Michigan State Turf, University, in Dr. Daniels in June of 1950. It was also my pleasure to see the first 2 year Turf Management Course graduate, including my son, Bruce Wolfrom.

In 1944 I joined the Midwest Turf Foundation and have attended many good turf conferences there.

All of the above Associations and Foundations, and my fellow superintendents, have been my lifes education in turf, for

which I am very thankful.

The greatest honor I ever received was in 1975, when 14 superintenmeents, including our sons Clem & Bruce Wolfrom, gave Viola and myself a golf watch and a plague, with their names on it in appreciation for any way I have helped them in turf management. For this I am very thankful. Since 1975 there are 2 more superintendents that were with us at Maple Lane. I have two sons, Clem Wolfrom and Bruce Wolfrom, golf course superintendents, and leaders in our profession to advance turfgrass research, of whom I am very proud.

If I had my life to live over again, I would do the same thing. I have no regrets. You only take out of life what you put in.

Clarence Wolfrom

P.S. I joined the Golf Course Supt. Association of America in June of 1927. Have attended most of the Conferences & Shows since. I've made a lot of good friends thru this Association and picked up turf knowledge you wouldn't find anywhere else.

December 23, 1981 Michigan & Border Cities Golf Course Supt. Assoc.

To the Board of Directors and members of the Michigan and Border Cities Golf Course Superintendent's Association, my sincere appreciation and thanks, for the plaque given me for over 50 years in golf maintenance.

I want to especially thank our past president, James Timmerman for his kind words and my history in golf over

the many years.

I have gained much knowledge and many friends thru this association, which I will cherish the rest of my life. Better things ahead.

Clarence Wolfrom

### 6 ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS WE NEVER THOUGHT YOU'D ASK

(BUT DECIDED TO ANSWER ANYWAY)

Yes, GCSAA can help you become a better superintendent. One way it does this is through educational seminars and conference sessions it sponsors each year to help you become better informed about turfgrass diseases, pesticides, landscaping and management practices.

Yes, GCSAA is helping to further the advancement of the turfgrass industry. Through the GCSAA Scholarship & Research Fund, Inc., GCSAA provided more than \$13,500 last year in research grants to leading turfgrass programs. GCSAA also provides educational opportunities to turfgrass students through annual turfgrass scholarships.

Yes, GCSAA provides a meeting ground for superintendents. Each year, GCSAA sponsors an annual conference and show for its members. Last year more than 6,500 educators, industry representatives and members from all over the world attended. GCSAA's executive committee decided at its last board meeting that the conference experience is so valuable that first-year members should be encouraged to attend by being given free admission.

Yes, GCSAA offers recognition for superintendents. Through its public relations efforts, its magazine, and its award programs, GCSAA helps promote the image and the professionalism of the superintendent. GCSAA also provides information to superintendents about how they can use public relations to promote their own image to their course, their community and their association.

Yes, GCSAA provides each member with a life insurance program. Supplemental insurance, disability and pension programs also are available.

No, GCSAA can't help you with your golf handicap. You'll have to work on that yourself.



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The Annual Christmas Party

Once again we must thank the Christmas Party Committee - Chaired by Kevin Dushane and his wife Mary for

the outstanding party.

This year we changed the format from past years and went to Roma's of Bloomfield for our party - The evening started with Cocktails at 7:00 PM - followed by Hors d'oeuvres from 8:00-11:00 PM - with dancing from 8:00pm-12:30am.

This was a pleasant surprise to the 84 attendees - because the Hors d'oeuvres included enough to eat for everyone - (more than you would have eaten if a

full meal was served.)

The music was outstanding and the Bar was "open" all night - The price was right and a good time was had by all - A Change for the better.

Results of Annual Election – October 21, 1981 – Maple Lane Golf Club

President-Bruce Wolfrom C.G.C.S. Superintendent, Barton Hills Country Club, Ann Arbor, Michigan Vice President-Walter Trombley, C.G.C.S., Superintendent, Arrowhead Golf Club, Lake Orion, Michigan. Secretary-Treasurer-Kevin Dushane, Superintendent, Wabeek Country Club - West Bloomfield, Michigan.

Newly elected directors are:
For three year terms Clem Wolfrom,
Superintendent, Detroit Golf Club,
Detroit, Michigan. Mike Edgerton,
Superintendent, Meadowbrook C.C.Northville, Michigan and Craig
Roggeman, Superintendent, St. Clair
Shores C.C.- St. Clair Shores, Michigan—for a one year term.

Those remaining on the Board are:

Jim Timmerman— Past President Dan Uselac—2 years remaining Charles Gaige—1 year remaining Ted Woehrle—2 years remaining If you have changed your address, please let us know so we can keep our addressing plates up to date.

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### TURF SUPPLIES INC.

6900 Pardee Rd., Taylor, Michigan (313) 291-1200 Annual Tournament at Bald Mt.

Host Superintendent, Gerald Prieskorn, of Bald Mt. supplied us with a well conditioned golf course for our annual golf tournament. The weather was threatening all day but the rains held off until dark.

Bob Pontuis, Supt. of Franklin Hills C.C., was the overall winner with a (74-8-66). He beat out Jim Valassis (79-11-68) and Gerold Prieskorn (75-6-69), both of Burrough's Farm Golf Club. Brighton, Michigan.

# 8-Bob Pontuis - Franklin Hills C.C. #13-Craig Roggeman - St. Claire Shores C.C.

#14-George Prieskorn - Burroughs Farm Golf Club

#17-Ward Swanson - Plum Hollow Golf Club

Of these, Ward Swanson was the most accurate, his shot was 15 inches from the hole.

Eight Ways to Increase Efficiency You can make better use of your time by following these eight suggestions offered by consultant Stephanie Winston, the author of Getting Organized: The Easy Way to Put Your Life in Order.

1. Barter. If you're facing a job you hate, see if someone else will do it in exchange for a service from you.

2. Double up on time by doing two things at once. Exercise while watching television or organize your desktop while you're talking on the phone.

3. Use professionals. Travel agents, answering services, cleanup crews and messenger services know their jobs better than you. They can free you to take on more important tasks.

4. Make every minute count. If you have to kill five minutes, use it to draft a quick personal letter or make a call. 5. Plan ahead. All other things being

equal, a chore might as well be done a week ahead of time instead of at the last minute.

6. Consolidate. If you have several phone calls to make, do them all at one sitting. Combine errands when possible.

7. Pool resources. Experiment with cooperative arrangements, such as carpooling.

8. Take advantage of labor-saving devices. Do your long division on a pocket calculator, for example.

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Pruning, cont.

only ruins the form but weakens the plant. In addition to large wounds for disease and insect entrance, the resulting flush of "featherly growth" is weak and susceptible to storm damage.

A three cut method is recommended for large limbs. The first cut is made eight to ten inches from the crotch or branch angle and on the underside of the limb. It should be ½ to ½ way through the limb. The second cut is made one to three inches further out from the first limb. As the limb falls, any bark rip, or break is stopped at the first cut. This prevents wounding and damage to other limbs or the trunk. Make the final cut through the branch collar. Support the stub to prevent bark wounds.

The wounded area should be smoothed with a knife to promote healing. At present there exists a controversy as to whether or not the apply wound dressing to the area. Shortle and Shigo (1978) recommend covering the wound

with black plastic. Other references recommend at ree wound dressing, but without evidence to indicate efficacy. The procedure you follow is between you and your clientele. Many homeowners, however, may feel the job is incomplete unless they see wound dressing.

Damage to root systems of large shade trees may occur from construction, and other disturbances. If severe root damage occurs, some thinning to the crown may be necessary to compensate. When thinning large branches, remove them at a crotch, do not leave stubs. The more severe the disturbance of the root system, the greater the need for thinning the crown.

Literature Cited: Shortie, W.C. and A.L. Shigo, 1978 Effect of plastic wrap on wound closure and internal compartmentalization of discolored and decayed wood in red maple. Plant Disease Reporter 62 (11): 999-1002

Extension Specialist in Horticulture University of Kentucky Robinson Research Station Quicksand, Kentucky



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