



Lois and Jim Latham

Jim and Lois Latham Retire to Texas

If you know anything about the Green Section's Great Lakes Region, then you are bound to know Jim and Lois Latham. And you probably know that after 10 years as regional director and office manager, respectively, Jim and Lois retired at the end of 1994. You might *not* know that both of them worked for the Green Section for 3½ years in the late 1950s, Jim as agronomist in the Southeastern Region and Lois as his secretary. In between, he served for 25 years as agronomist with the Milwaukee Sewerage Commission.

Jim will be sorely missed by his friends and associates on the Green Section staff and by the hundreds of golf courses he has helped along the way. In the terms of the current vernacular, Jim's work as an agronomist for the Green Section has been *awesome*. He's been an extremely hard worker and seemed to thrive on travel. In fact, he was kiddingly referred to as our Road Warrior for his frequent journeys through the hinterlands of Minnesota, the Dakotas, Montana, and Wyoming, visiting golf courses with nothing between them but hundreds of miles of pavement and lots of beautiful scenery.

After a 40-year career in the turfgrass business, Jim and Lois have retired to their native Texas. But unlike some of the putting greens Jim has had to deal with over the years, they're not going to let the moss gain a foothold on them! Lois is taking up golf again, and Jim has accepted a seat on the USGA's Turfgrass Research Committee, where he will attend regular meetings and help make monitoring visits to projects funded by the Committee. He also has agreed to help us sort through old Green Section files (1920 to 1960s) and put together a long-overdue history of the Green Section. With the experience, knowledge,

and enthusiasm Jim has yet to offer, we want to be sure that, when asked, he will use that oft-quoted axiom, "With all I have going on in retirement, I wonder how I managed to *work* all those years!"

Their friends on the Green Section staff wish Jim and Lois many happy years in retirement.



Paul Vermeulen

Vermeulen Relocates to a Modified Mid-Continent Region

For seven years Paul Vermeulen enjoyed the ups and downs of life in the California sun, making Turf Advisory Service visits to golf courses throughout California and much of the Southwest. He also assisted other regions when they were in need, making him the most widely traveled agronomist on the Green Section staff. Now Michigan-born Vermeulen has taken a big step returning to the Midwest, establishing an office in Illinois (location not determined at the time of this writing) as part of the restructuring of the Green Section regions. The states of Illinois and Iowa will be joining Vermeulen in the Green Section's Mid-Continent Region, which is overseen by director Jim Moore from his Waco, TX, office. As part of the regional changes, the states of Colorado and Wyoming will join the Green Section's Western Region. In moving to the Mid-Continent Region, Vermeulen is replacing George Manuel, who resigned from the Green Section staff to become the golf course superintendent at the Pine Forest Country Club, near Houston, TX.

Paul brings outstanding experience to his new position. He is a Michigan State grad and received a Master of Science degree from Texas A&M University under the tutelage of Dr. James B. Beard. He can claim some hands-on experience in the Chicago area, having served his summer internship working at the Olympia Fields Country Club during 1983 and 1984, in the midst of the reconstruction of their North Course. Since joining the Green Section, Vermeulen has made more than 1,000 TAS visits throughout the country, written extensively for trade publications, and spoken at countless meet-

ings and conferences. The courses utilizing the Turf Advisory Service in the northern section of the Mid-Continent Region will be well served by the knowledge and enthusiasm Paul brings to the job.



Bob Brame

Brame Named Director of North-Central Region

Bob Brame, who for five years has served as an agronomist in the Green Section's Mid-Atlantic Region, has been named director of the newly formed North-Central Region. Joining him in making Turf Advisory Service visits in the region will be Bob Vavrek, who for the past four years was an agronomist in the now-defunct Great Lakes Region. Included in the North-Central Region will be the states of Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Montana.

In providing advisory services to the region, Brame will be located at his office in Covington, KY, while Vavrek will work out of the former headquarters office of the Great Lakes Region in Mequon, WI. By establishing two offices in the region, it is hoped to provide more effective, efficient service to clubs and courses that subscribe to the Green Section's Turf Advisory Service. It is expected that Brame will concentrate his visits in the states of Kentucky, Ohio, and Indiana, while Vavrek will visit clubs along the northern border, from Michigan to Montana.

Bob Brame brings a wealth of experience to his new position as director of the North-Central Region. A graduate of Purdue University with B.S. and M.S. degrees in agronomy (turf option), he served from 1973 through 1989 as golf course superintendent at four different courses, the last being the Broadmoor Country Club in Indianapolis, IN. He began his golf career in 1966 as an assistant in a local pro shop, played on the golf team through high school and college, and today can pound a 1-iron as far as most of us can hit our drives.

Bob and wife Rhonda have a son, Scott, and a daughter, Jennifer. The Green Section wishes Bob the very best in his new position.