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# A PATCH OF GREEN

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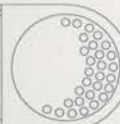
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# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## APRIL

### 7 ..... GCSAA Spray Technician Seminar

Indianwood Golf and Country Club  
Host: Mark Jackson

### 18 ..... Joint Meeting with Canadian Association

Pointe West Golf Club, Ontario

## MAY

### 20 ..... Special Olympics Coming~ Hold the Date!

Bald Mountain Golf Club

For the 13th year, the MBCGCSA will sponsor a golf outing to benefit the Special Olympics organization. The immensely successful event last year at Bald Mountain Golf Club was a sellout, and we are hoping to have the same great turnout this year.

The outing is scheduled for Friday, May 20th, and the entry fee will again be \$65 per person and \$260 per team. The entrance fee includes golf, cart, continental breakfast, luncheon on the course and a great steak dinner prepared by the Prieskorn family. Those who can't participate in golf, but wish to be a part of the event, may purchase dinner tickets for \$25, and donations for tee sponsorships will be welcome.

Last year's popular post golf activities, including the raffle, 50/50 drawing, prizes, entertainment and the sports memorabilia auction will again be part of the festivities. Also, we are looking forward to the appearance of, Alex Delvecchio, with us.

Your efforts raised \$8,000 for this worthwhile organization last year, and have high hopes of increasing that donation. Mark your calendars and sign up early. **Hope to see you there!**

#### For further information, please contact:

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## kate speaking

### "Michigan and Border Cities...Kate speaking."

"Hi, Kate. It's Pete Miller."

"Oh, Hi, Pete. What's up?"

"Well, I'm calling to cancel my reservation for the next meeting. Something's come up and I won't be able to make it."

"Sorry, you can't make it. Should be a good one. Thanks for calling. I'll take care of the cancellation. You know, it's a good thing you called or we might have to charge you, even though you didn't attend. Very often the club charges us for the reservation amount and not those actually attending."

"Yeah, I know. I got stuck last time. I learned my lesson."

"Well, I'd also like to thank you for making your reservation so promptly. I see, by my records, you called the day you received the flyer. That way you didn't forget and we can have a "count" for the host. I can't tell you how many people wait till after the deadline date to make their reservation. Seems so inconsiderate to me, to everyone involved: the host, the club and the committee in charge. It also isn't too easy updating that list."

"Well, you know. I don't think the guys give it that much thought...until it's too late. They get busy...you know."

"I understand. It just doesn't take much time to be considerate."

"Guess I better go."

"Sorry for bending your ear. Just one of my pet peeves, I guess."

"Thanks, Kate"

"Anytime, Pete."



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## (It's about time.)



# On par with the president

Einstein once said,  
 "The tragedy of  
 life is what dies  
 inside a person as  
 he or she lives."  
 The opportunity  
 for education is all  
 around us.

For the last 14 years, I've had the pleasure of working for a university that continues in its

mission by encouraging employees to attend self-motivation, management, higher education, retirement and miscellaneous seminars, workshops, retreats and association meetings to promote a more diversified and educated

individual. This helps employees avoid becoming stagnant in their jobs and also gives them the opportunity to learn more about their desired field or search for new beginnings.

Last January, I attended the seminar, "The Manager As Coach." The theme was to learn the skills required to become a coach and how to build a team of champions. The instructor gave us, a group of 40 administrators, many ideas and techniques to manage as a coach. As I absorbed the information, I recognized many techniques that could be brought back to my employees and allow me to manage them more efficiently. Today, it is very important to work with your employees, as well as manage them.

Following are highlights of techniques to "Manage As a Coach."

## Setting Goals

- \* Each individual should set a goal.
- \* Goals should be attainable, and the step process should be defined.
- \* When setting goals, teach your employees how to prioritize and use time management.
- \* Discuss goals with individuals and staff on a regular basis.

## Training

- \* Employees learn by example...yours.
- \* Keep your employees informed by scheduling staff meetings.
- \* Give your employees the opportunity to attend seminars and workshops.
- \* Encourage your veteran employees to teach the basics, not the shortcuts.
- \* Ideas and knowledge are keys to learning.

## Developing Working Relationships

- \* Trust and respect will be built by management.
- \* A manager who is trusted and respected has the team working with him.

- \* Employees who trust and respect each other continue to grow as a champion team.

- \* Only if you understand the uniqueness of each employee will you be able to teach and communicate with them.

- \* Teach them positive and negative aspects of working together with others on the team.

## Motivation

- \* YOU do not motivate anyone—YOU create the situation, to which they motivate themselves.

## Monitor Performance

- \* Pay attention to ALL employees' performance.
- \* Performance at outstanding levels should be commended.
- \* Give office support to overloaded personnel. Make sure responsibilities do not exceed abilities.

## Welcome Feedback-Deliver Feedback

- \* Let your employees know when they are doing a good job.
- \* Let your employees know YOUR goals and expectations.
- \* Listen to your employees' needs and expectations.
- \* Encourage employees to submit agendas to be discussed at meetings.

*All these steps are important in developing and maintaining a hard-working team, and they give each employee the opportunity to be unique. Once the players' goals are met, then you start over and set new goals. All it takes is a few minutes with each team member, once a week, to make sure they are aware that YOU are interested in the ability of each team member, as well as their performance as a team. Reaching the coach's goals are, therefore, simplified with the cooperation of your championship team.*

Also, in January, the 64th Annual Michigan Turfgrass Conference was held in Lansing. Personally, I feel the five days of critical information was the most educational program that the Michigan Turf Foundation (MTF) and Michigan State Extension have ever organized. More than 1,200 turf-oriented participants braved the -20 degree weather to digest news, research data and updates on environmental matters. Subjects included: pesticide exposures, wetlands, laws, new and old state legislation, nutrients in soil,

new greens specifications, plant growth regulations, biological controls of turfgrass diseases and many agronomic concerns.

We turf managers need to support the message we relay to the membership and clients to whom we are responsible.

CONGRATULATIONS to MTF President Jim Bogart, his excellent committee directors and the MSU research staff for providing the educational information. It was a superior conference.

In closing, the crocus and daffodils are about to explode on the scene, as well as the green grasses that make our commitments to turf managing worthwhile. As the season opens, start it off right by learning the skills required to manage a team of champions; and when that first ball flies, you'll know you're ready.



Jay Delcamp  
 PRESIDENT

*Have a great last few weeks of winter and a Super Opening Day!!*

## GCSAA Election Results

The GCSAA held its 1994 Annual Meeting on February 7, 1994, in Dallas, Texas. Among the topics considered were 15 proposed by-law changes, which would grant the GCSAA Executive Board greater latitude in the day-to-day managing of the Association. The results were as follows:

- Ballot #1** Articles of Incorporation wording.  
yes-5,229 no-46 Passed
- Ballot #2** Preamble yes-5,230 no-46 Passed
- Ballot #3** Membership Application yes-3,950 no-1,325  
Passed
- Ballot #4** AA, A, B, C Membership Classes  
yes-4,659 no-616 Passed
- Ballot #5** D1,D2,D3,D4,D5,D6 Membership Classes  
yes-2,954 no -2,321 Failed
- Ballot #6** F Membership Class yes-2,485 no-2,798  
Failed
- Ballot #7** Educators, Associate, Honorary, Student,  
Retired, Inactive Membership Classes  
yes-4,357 no-918 Passed
- Ballot #8** Dues & Supplemental Assessments  
Passed
- Ballot #9** Conduct of Members yes-5,152 no-123  
Passed
- Ballot #10** Publication of Voting yes-4,774 no-501  
Passed
- Ballot #11** Voting, Officers/Board, Committees yes-5,207  
no-68 Passed
- Ballot #12** Duties & Powers of Board yes 5,270 no-5  
Passed
- Ballot #13** Duties of Secretary/Treas. yes, 5,275 no-0  
Passed
- Ballot #14** Position of CEO yes-5,122 no-153  
Passed
- Ballot #15** Trustees of Benevolence Fund yes- 5,270 no-5  
Passed

The Annual Election was held at the same meeting, and Mr. Joe Baidy, CGCS of Ohio, was elected president of GCSAA for 1994. The result of the remaining elections were as follows:

Vice President: Gary Grigg CGCS (Florida) 4,137 votes  
Bruce Williams CGCS (Ill.) 1,121 votes  
Directors: Paul McGinnis (Ariz.) 3,750 votes - elected  
Charles Passios (Mass.) 985  
Tommy Witt (Texas) 2,905  
Scott Woodhead (Mont.) 3,399 - elected  
Bruce Williams (Ill.) 4,460 - elected  
Mr. Tommy Witt, of Texas, was appointed to the Board by President Joe Baidy to complete the unexpired term of Gary Grigg.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Mason - GCSAA Delegate

## Christmas Memories

The 1993 Christmas Party was held at Red Run Golf Club on December 3, 1993. Gary and Rosemarie Thommes were the hosts, and Mike and Kathy Bay were chairpersons for this annual event.

The renovated clubhouse at Red Run accommodated the 134 people comfortably, and the excellent food and service provided by General Manager Andy Roback and his staff made the evening special for everyone.

Jim McGuire again played a key part in arranging for the decorations and gift ornaments, and the band, "Secrets," entertained til the early hours. Highlights of the evening included the presentation of the Past President Plaque to outgoing president Ken DeBusscher, and gifts to

Pam DeBusscher pulls the name of the next raffle winner while Ken oversees the raffle.

The line dance group keeps with the beat.

immediate Past President Tom Mason in appreciation of their tireless work in keeping our association the strongest in the nation. Our new president, Jay Delcamp, was introduced and expressed his feelings about joining the company of former MBGCSA presidents.

The 1994 Christmas Party will be held at Lakeland Golf Club in Brighton with Superintendent Jon Shreve as both host and chairman. Mark your calendars now for December 2, 1994!



# Golf Course Superintendents Warned of Cancer Risk

## GCSAA Announces Next Phase Of Health Research Program

**G**CSAA will launch a new series of health research projects and expand its commitment to chemical applicator education.

The new series will advance a preliminary statistical study conducted by an independent research team from the University of Iowa (UI) College of Medicine. The results of the study, which was initiated and financed by GCSAA Scholarship & Research, were announced February 6 at the association's annual conference in Dallas.

The study was a statistical analysis of death certificates among 618 former GCSAA members who died between 1970 and 1992. The Iowa researchers found that the group had a higher rate of mortality from lung cancer than the general population. They also found higher-than-average mortality for a number of other cancers, including brain, large intestine, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma and prostate.

The research team stressed that the results cannot be interpreted to mean that golfers are at risk.

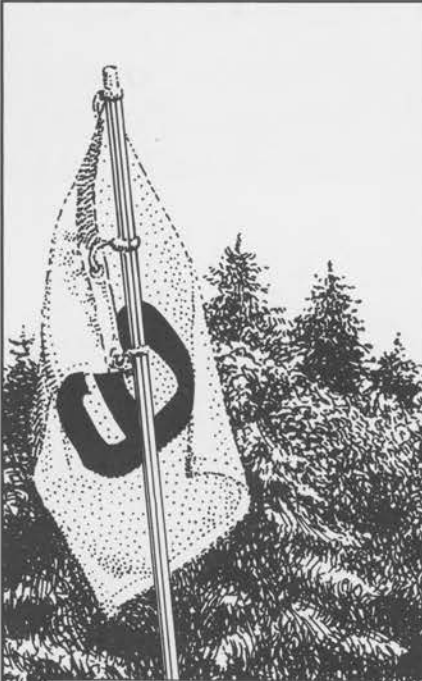
From a public and occupational health perspective, the excess number of lung cancer deaths is a primary concern," said Dr. Burton Kross, associate director of UI's Institute of Agricultural Medicine and Occupational Health, who led the research team.

"From a public and occupational health perspective, the excess number of lung cancer deaths is a primary concern," Kross said. Lung and other head and neck cancers have been strongly associated with cigarette and cigar smoking, but Kross strongly cautioned that no cause-and-effect relationship to any illness can be determined by this statistical analysis. According to researchers, a statistical study cannot be interpreted to link any particular factor to cause of death.

GCSAA's mission in funding this independent mortality study was to begin the first phase of an overall look at occupational health and safety issues that affect our members," said Stephen F. Mona, GCSAA executive director/CEO. "This is a long-term commitment to ensuring that superintendents work in a safe and healthy environment."

The next phase of the overall effort could include helping association members stop smoking, expanding GCSAA's current education and training programs, and completing a statistical mortality ratio study to put UI's preliminary data into context.

"We also think this gives us an opportunity to forge new partnerships with groups that can help us accomplish our mission," Mona said. "For example, the chemical manufacturers have made great strides in packaging and formulation over the past decade. This is one more reason to work closely with them in their efforts to develop new technology in products and packaging. Another example could be working with an organization like the American Cancer Society on the smoking issue. This also gives GCSAA the opportunity to continue to strongly encourage and support the Environmental Protection Agency."




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## **NEW PRODUCT INFORMATION**

### **Sandoz Announces Registration of Sentinel 40WG Fungicide for Golf Course Market**

After many years of development and testing, Sandoz Agro's Sentinel 40WG fungicide has received Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) registration for use on golf course turfgrass.

Sentinel is effective against 14 major turf diseases—including brown patch, dollar spot and summer patch—at rates lower than any commercially available fungicide, according to the company. Sentinel also controls rust, southern blight, red thread, copper spot, anthracnose, stripe smut, necrotic ring spot, gray and pink snow mold and gray leaf spot.

Sentinel was the focus of an EPA-approved Experimental Use Program on 45 courses in 1993. During the past eight years, it has been tested on 12 turf species at more than 400 sites across the country.

According to Ron Fister, director of Specialty Sales at Sandoz, the focus in 1994 is to introduce Sentinel into the Northern United States, where turf managers are plagued with the diseases this fungicide has been successful in preventing.

Sandoz also announces that the EPA has approved Barricade, the company's premium preemergence herbicide, for use in and around more than 100 species of landscape ornamentals, as well as on Bentgrass and all areas of the golf course, except putting greens. Changes to Barricade's label also include the removal of height restriction for turf at the time of application. The new, simplified label lists rates of application in regions of the country, eliminating rate ranges. Used as part of a comprehensive turf and landscape management program, Barricade provides season-long control (up to 26 weeks) of weeds. Its low solubility enables the product to stay at the soil line throughout the growing season for long-term protection and residual control capability.

**For more information, please call (800) 435-TURF (8873) or Benham Chemical Co., (810) 474-7474.**



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## **CENTURY RAIN AID**



# in Memoriam



Current superintendent at Meadowbrook Country Club, Mike Edgerton (l.) with Andrew Bertoni, who passed away February 16.

An old friend of mine passed away recently. He was the first golf course superintendent I ever worked for. On February 16, 1994, Andy Bertoni expired at the age of 81 of congestive heart failure. He died in his sleep. I think all of us who knew Andy would agree that a fitting ending to his life was that he probably told his wife a joke before he went to sleep for the last time.

His ability to make people laugh and smile was what Andy was about. He had a heart of gold that he shared with everyone. Andy enjoyed life.

I first worked for Andy in 1971. He always was willing to help me in any way he could. If it weren't for him, I probably would not be in the golf business today. I learned more than how to grow grass with Andy. He showed me how to enjoy people.

I remember attending turfgrass conferences over the years and many times walking up on a group of people laughing and smiling. Andy would be in the middle of the pack telling his one-liners and hilarious stories. His eyes would be twinkling and his voice ringing out with laughter.

Young children would flock around Andy where he was. His magic tricks would mystify them. His charm would disarm them.

Andy was born in Genoa, Italy, and moved to the United States in 1913 with his family. They lived in the Ann Arbor area. Andy attended Sacred Heart Seminary in Detroit, where he almost decided to enter the priesthood. He attended college at Notre Dame and the University of Michigan.

Andy was very active in the golf industry from the early days of his career. He was the Golf Course Superintendent at Barton Hills County Club in the late 40s. In 1952, Andy became the Superintendent at

## Tribute to a Friend

by Kevin Dushane  
Golf Course Superintendent  
Bloomfield Hills Country Club

Meadowbrook Country Club. After 17 years, Andy moved on to Holly Greens Golf Course, where he finished his career as a Golf Course Superintendent. After leaving Holly Greens, Andy worked as a consultant/turfgrass ambassador with the W.A. Cleary Company. In the early 80s, he finally settled down for good with his loving wife of 55 years, Evelyn, a genuine person in her own right. They raised a family of two boys and two girls. One of their sons, Jim Bertoni, became a Golf Course Superintendent and now resides in California.

Andy was active in the turfgrass industry. He served as a Director of the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation and was President of the Michigan and Border Cities GCSA. He was involved with the USGA Green Section and served on the Board of Directors of the GCSAA. In fact, Andy received the Distinguished Service Award from the GCSAA in 1986.

I wanted to write about Andy because I feel it is important that younger members of our Association know a little about some of the men who helped our industry, and our Association, grow. We have lost some great leaders over the years. They must be remembered in order to keep the legacy of the Michigan and Border Cities GCSA alive. Thus, it can be passed on to the next generation of Golf Course Superintendents.

Jimmy Bertoni eulogized his father best by saying there never will be another Andy Bertoni. He's right. There never will be. For this, we all lose out.

Doug Glasson, owner of D & C Distributors, passed away January 6, 1994. Doug owned D&C for 13 years. Previously, he worked for Mille Equipment in Plymouth for 30 years selling heavy construction equipment. Doug is survived by his wife, Carole, six children and 16 grandchildren. Mark Glasson will oversee the operation of D&C Distributors.



Memorial donations can be sent to: Matthew Botsford Rehabilitation Fund, 8079 Locklun Lane, Commerce Township, MI 48382

In Memoriam continued on page 13

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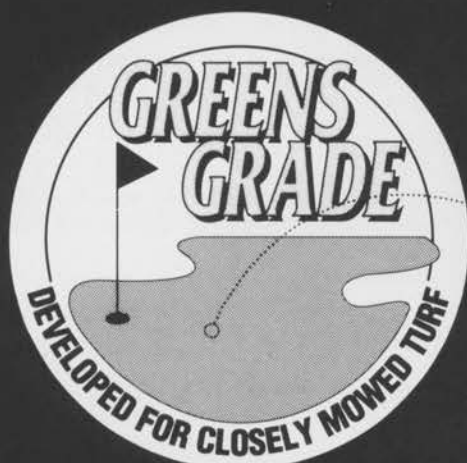
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# Memoriam

## A Reflection on Don LaFond

by Clem Wolfrom

Don LaFond, better known to his close friends as the "Silver Fox," passed away earlier this year. Being a close friend, I wanted to let others know the effect he left on the Superintendent profession and on our Association.

Don was a self-made superintendent. He came up through the ranks in the golf business from a job as bartender at Edgewood Country Club to his position as superintendent at Bay Pointe Golf Club. With Ernie Fuller as his mentor, Don took on one of the tougher courses in Michigan (Bay Pointe, literally, was built on a swamp.) and made it into one of the finest private outing courses in Michigan. What Don didn't know about draining a golf course wasn't worth knowing. He was a master at it. He probably handled more outings at his club per year than any five clubs together in the state, and had to have that course in shape for carts to run at every outing—three or four per week throughout the season.

Don was always one of the hardest workers at our Annual Fund-raising day. He convinced Ernie Fuller that Bay Pointe should be the host club, which it is, and has been for many years. Don also served on the Board of Directors of our Association and did a hell of a job.

What stands out most in my mind was Don's likeable personality. He had many friends in and out of the golf world. He organized a group of superintendents who snowmobiled every Monday night in the winter. Everyone was welcome to meet at his house on Bay Pointe, and the party was on. I never knew a man who worked harder or enjoyed partying just as much. He really enjoyed life.

Don was not one to ring his own bell. He did not receive a lot of awards. He was just a producer. The kind of fellow you loved to be around. The kind of man you'd want for a friend.

So, a final salute to you, Don. Take care of "Silver Fox" and have a scotch on us. You always will be remembered.

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# MBCGCSA Awards Scholarships



(l. to r.) Matt Ashton, Scholarship Chairman Dave Picot and Dean Mowry.

**M**BCGCSA student awards were presented at the annual Michigan Turfgrass Conference. This year our association introduced a two-year award, along with the four-year turfgrass student award. All interviews were conducted on campus on December 15, 1993. Interviewers of four-year students were: Carey Mitchelson, Dale Bauer and Craig Roggeman. Two-year students were interviewed by Jon Shreve, Dave Montgomery and Scholarship Chairman Dave Picot. Following individual

interviews, the winners were: Matthew Ashton (two-year award) and Dan Mowry (four-year award). Matt has worked at Forest Lake Country Club since 1979 and carried a 3.96 GPA. He also won a GCSAA award and a Trans-Mississippi award. Dean's experience has been at Crystal Springs Country Club and Riverside Country Club. He is a member of the Agronomy Club and Turf Club and also received the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation's Robert Hancock Award.

***MBCGCSA extends its congratulations to both winners, and best wishes for good luck in future endeavors.***

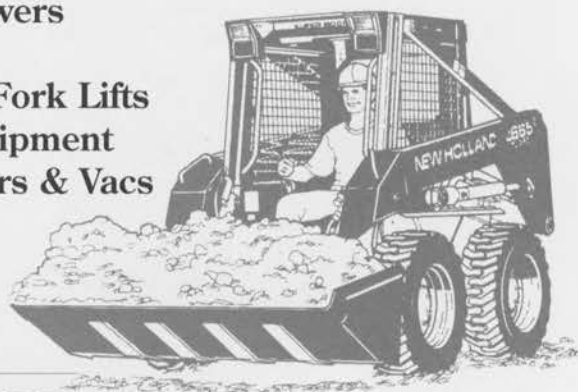
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## Michigan State Research Shows Insignificant Amounts of Fertilizer Reach Groundwater

A study conducted by Michigan State University Professor Dr. Bruce Branham and a team of university faculty experts in nitrogen fate research has found the amount of nitrogen fertilizer applied to turfgrass which reaches groundwater is basically nil.

The research project, a part of the \$3 million United States Golf Association Environmental Research effort, was designed to monitor the movement of nitrogen fertilizers through the soil and their potential to subsequently contaminate groundwater. Preliminary results indicated that less than one percent of the nitrogen applied on a Kentucky bluegrass turf traveled to a depth of four feet within the sandy loam soil.

For more detailed information on the study, contact Mike Kenna, USGA Green Section Research Office, Box 2227, Stillwater, OK 74076.

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# Feelin' Proud .....

by Tim Doppel

I just got back from a vacation spot to which most every parent dreams of taking their children: Disney World. And I must tell you that if you have not yet been, ya gotta go. You can go without children if you want and still have a good time, but there is something magical about seeing it through the eyes of a child. Borrow somebody's kids if you have to, but go. Watching the reaction of our children to the many stimuli found in the Disney parks was worth every cent we paid for the trip.

"Here you see the progress that American agriculture has made over the last century."

And when you do go, one of the highlights has to be Epcot Center and, in particular, The Land exhibit. Here you see the progress that American agriculture has made over the last century. They make a valid point of how, at first, farmers disregarded the dynamics of soil conservation and how the land has suffered for it. Then they present how agriculture has improved its practices to better preserve the health of our soils. Then you move into an active research center where they try new ideas for improved watering, hydroponics and other cool stuff like that. All very interesting, and it truly makes you proud to be

associated with agriculture in our livelihoods.

The reason for this little travelogue is that in two different places of the presentation, they specifically mention that they are trying to reduce pesticide use. I overheard the women sitting behind me comment that they thought that was "a very good idea." I thought to myself, "Boy, I can't even go on a vacation and get away from pesticide controversy!" But before I could try to interject something (and I was madly thinking of how to phrase it!) the guide mentioned IPM practices. He went on to say that Disney recognizes that IPM does NOT mean using no pesticides and that, on occasion, they must spray materials to control pests. Whew! Needless to say the women behind me had no comment about that.

We all try to be good stewards of the little piece of earth we have been given. We attend all those important seminars, read all those worthwhile articles and listen to the advice of the experts. We plant the right grasses and plants, water, fertilize and mow them

correctly to maintain as healthy of a plant as we possibly can. We do everything we know to keep our turf and landscapes as pleasing to our members and players as possible using any extraordinary means. But it still isn't enough.

Even when we do everything the right way, we will still need to use pesticides once in awhile because our customers demand a certain level of playing condition on our courses. My customers in my business expect a certain quality of lawn. Disney customers expect a certain level of appearance of the landscape and grounds. And we all use pesticides to achieve the results that our customers demand. I am a firm advocate of not using any more pesticides than we absolutely have to. I abhor a philosophy of indiscriminate spraying of materials without a target pest being identified. But I would never say that the time for pesticide use is past. In fact, we know that the quality of life of society in general has improved in the last century, at the same time that pesticides have been used.

## Consider the following:

### In 1900...

- There were about 8,000 cars in the United States, but only 10 miles of concrete pavement.
- There were few spray cans to destroy the ozone layer.
- Everyone ate natural foods.
- The air was relatively unpolluted and the ground was free of aluminum cans.
- There were no sugar substitutes and no artificial colorings in foods.
- We had no atomic waste or PCB.
- The average life expectancy was 47 years.

### In 1994:

- We are doing it all wrong.
- The average life expectancy is 75 years.
- Watch Out! If we're not careful, we may begin living to age 90! (attributed to W.J. McIlrath)

I walked very tall coming out of The Land at Epcot because, in my heart, I know that I am contributing to the same quality of life that Disney so eloquently displayed in their exhibits and grounds. And so are you.

***P.S. If you would like to know more about my trip, let me know. I have about two hours of video and lots of pictures I could bore you with real fast!***





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## Michigan & Border Cities GCSA

# MEMBER FOCUS

**Jay Delcamp**  
President

Jay Delcamp, Superintendent at Oakland University's Katke Cousins Golf Course, is calm by nature. His easy-going temperament has held him in good standing for 15 years at Katke Cousins as well as his previous golf course employment. Even out at sea in a flooding submarine during his tour in the Navy he didn't lose his cool. Employees appreciate his calming personality.

"The most challenging requirement about a superintendent's job is managing your employees and communicating with the constituents who enjoy the course," he says. Jay is a firm believer in team spirit. "I try to make sure my employees know I am interested in helping them set and reach individual and team goals; that I'm not just the boss, distributing responsibilities. Although, I expect my team to complete their duties to the best of their capability."

One of Jay's concerns is the media's critical view about golf club superintendents and their relationship to the environment. "We do more for the environment than anyone else in the supply-type business," he says. "We have taken many courses, read and studied requirements and are learning every day the importance of being environmentally friendly." One of the most treasured moments for Jay is at 7 p.m. when he says, "As the sun goes down, I cherish watching the deer enjoy the natural habitats that have been established for them. During the winter, we have observed 18 varieties of birds, including our famous gaggles of Canadian geese which faithfully return every year. Our course houses foxes, raccoons, opossums, muskrats and other various wildlife, including stocked ponds with several schools of fish. We feel the wildlife of our course is of utmost importance and are encouraged that our dedication to the environment will be noticed by the general public. One of my goals is to do a better job of getting this point of view across to everyone."

Jay believes the superintendent is caught in the middle of the pesticide controversy. "It's tough to maintain a manicured golf course without spraying and using pesticides, and yet our membership wants the course looking perfect. If we were to stop maintaining the course by spraying, it would fall below par, to the turfs of yesterday. As long as we stay knowledgeable on pesticide regulations, changes in applications and proper procedures, we will remain beneficial in protecting the environments around us."

Jay's colleagues agree that he and his crew of 11 make Katke Cousins' 285 acres one of the state's most beautifully maintained and challenging courses. Its historical beauty is vivid on the 17th green where Meadow Brook Hall stands tall along the fairway. Currently in the fourth year of a five-year plan, the course is undergoing the renovation of its sand traps, which pleases Jay immensely. "The traps are what make a golf hole aesthetically pleasing and challenging. We're changing styles completely, and it will make an extensive difference in the appearance of the course."

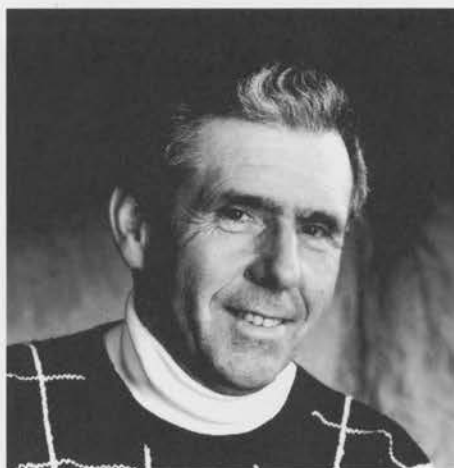
Jay began golfing at age 11 when he and his friends bicycled three miles to take lessons and practice at the Corunna Golf Club in Corunna, Michigan. His golfing achievements include being a winner of the Charlie Gehringer Memorial Meadow Brook Golf Classic, Club Champion at Indianwood and countless other tournaments. Jay takes lessons several times a year from "one of the best teachers in the area," Jerry Prieskorn, of Bald Mountain. (Fair warning to seniors. Jay is getting his game toned up with the senior tournaments in mind, because when he turns 50 in a few years, he'll be ready!)

An active member of the MBCGCSA since 1972, Jay brings a valuable perspective to his new role as President. "When I was a rookie, I found that most techniques were kept secret.

Now, it's phenomenal how superintendents assist each other with ideas, projections, concerns and maintenance techniques. This is rewarding to observe because, after all, offering golf course superintendents support, education and fellowship is the whole purpose of the MBCGCSA."

Jay is encouraged by the fact that attendance in the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation Conference has tripled, as well as the doubled attendance at the National Conference since he's been in the Association. However, he also would like to see an increased participation in the MBCGCSA's monthly meetings. "The meetings are more than just a chance to play golf," he says. "They're an opportunity to observe and learn from what other superintendents are accomplishing. And busy superintendents can use every effective, time-saving idea they can get!" He encourages other superintendents to take note of his perspective, to make time to attend meetings and get involved with their Association.





*Dave Southard, Superintendent,  
Bellevue Country Club, Syracuse, New York*

## "WITH DACONIL 2787®, WE'VE HAD NO PROBLEM WITH LEAF SPOT."

Spring comes late in central New York, and Dave Southard, course superintendent at the Bellevue Country Club in Syracuse, knows he can count on plenty of moisture and cool temperatures. "That means Leaf spot," Dave says. "Then we go right from Leaf spot to Dollar spot to Brown patch to Snow mold."

That's why, when the last snow melts in mid-April, Dave begins a season-long program of turf protection that centers on Daconil 2787® Flowable Fungicide from ISK Biotech Corporation.

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"I don't think we have more Leaf spot problems than other courses, but we do seem to have a longer time during which you have to control it," Dave explains. "We spray fairways, tees, and greens about every two weeks for a six- or seven-week period."

Bellevue Country Club is an 18-hole Donald Ross course, built in 1916. Much of its character comes from the course's rolling, woodsy terrain. In fact, the trees create some moisture problems on greens, tees and fairways.

"We're trying to thin out the trees a little, but we're really overplanted," Dave admits. "Many parts of the

course are slow to dry out in the morning. Early or late in the year, when the sun is low in the sky, there are parts of the course that really don't get any sun at all. The trees cut down on air circulation, too. And that increases disease pressure."

### **"I always come back to Daconil."**

You might say Daconil 2787 is the cornerstone of Dave's turf management program. While he sometimes uses other products, he always comes back to Daconil 2787 for dependable disease control, and to avoid resistance. As Dave puts it: "For 23 years, it's been one of the basic products I use. It's very cost-effective, and quite dependable."

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# Michigan Turfgrass Conference

---

## Cold As Norway and Almost As Exciting

The 64th Michigan Turfgrass Conference was held in balmy Lansing on January 18-20. Record low temperatures across the state transcended down from the Arctic causing some batteries to "crank" hard, but not the attitudes of the attendees.

Many MBCGCSA members were involved in the record-setting conference. Tom Gray and Bruce Jacobs were co-chairmen, and their efforts were evidenced by the quality of the speakers and topics. During the conference, Jon Maddern became the new MTF president, succeeding Jim Bogart. Jim Timmerman, Harry Schuemann and Mike Edgerton served as moderators of different sessions. Ted Woehrle gave two speeches, one on the basic schools of golf course construction and another on establishing new golf greens. A panel discussion with Dr. Bruce Branham on plant growth regulators involved Paul Dushane, Harry Schuemann and Gary Thommes. They answered many questions about Scott's TGR, Cutless and Primo and showed how they can be used in a turf management program.

At the annual awards luncheon, Dr. Joe Varges, Jr. presented Dr. Paul Rieke with the Meritorious Service Award, a very deserving honor to a professional and class individual who is a recognized name in the turfgrass industry worldwide.

There were numerous educational topics from which to choose, and Dr. Branham's research speech on the fate of nitrogen and the insignificant amount of fertilizer that reaches groundwater was a highlight.

The vendor show, in an expanded area, was well organized and allowed ample room for mingling with fellow professionals. Many thanks to the vendors for their support of the turfgrass industry.

Remember to keep records of credits for recertification. *It's your responsibility.*

Tufgrass Inc.'s Gene Johanningsmeier, wearing many nametags, answers questions during the vendor show.



Ron Detweiler, of M.S.U. Plant Pathology Department, always helpful and hard working.



Outgoing President of MTF, Jim Bogard, with new president Jon Maddern of Elk Ridge Golf Club.

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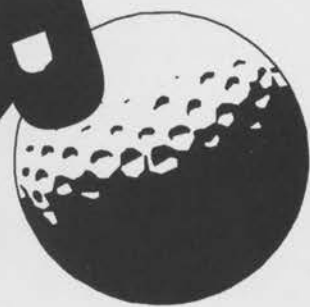
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## Two-Year Golf Turf Program Fact Sheet

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by Dr. John N. Rogers, III  
Michigan State University

For decades, university administrators have pointed to the land grant schools as opportunities for the common person to become educated. One of the major strengths of any land grant university is its diversity in program offerings. The turfgrass program at Michigan State University is world renowned for many reasons, not the least of which is its teaching and its diverse educational opportunities for students desiring an education in the field of turfgrass management. Perhaps the most well known of all the MSU programs is the Two-Year Golf Turf Management (GTM) program, stated in 1966 by Dr. James Beard and built into international prominence by Dr. Kenyon T. Payne from 1970 until his retirement in 1988. There are many reasons this program has grown so popular over the last 28 years. Listed below, in no particular order, are a few of these reasons as well as other facts about the program.

1. Each year since 1989 there have been more than 400 inquiries about the GTM program, and the program has received well over 100 formal applications in each of these years. Forty students are selected into this program annually.
2. The average age of these students in the last five years is 25, with just slightly under three seasons of golf turf experience. Approximately 33 percent of the students are from outside Michigan.
3. Since 1989, at least 30 percent of each incoming class already possessed baccalaureate degrees in other fields, and more than 95% of the students transfer in college credits from other institutions.
4. While on campus, the students complete 49 credits of formal class work and six internship credits. The formal credits are taken over a total of 50 weeks, and 55% (27 credits) of these credits are directly related to golf turf management.
5. None of the classes in the GTM program are taught by graduate assistants, and 60% of the credits in the program are offered by professors (Ph.D.s). Of the 27 directly related turf credits, 82% are taught by professors.
6. All students are required to perform an internship in the golf turf industry in order to graduate. Each student is visited by a member of the turf staff at MSU, a rarity among programs in the U.S.
7. As a whole, five to 10 percent of the students obtain superintendent jobs upon graduation and 10 to 20 percent of the students take senior crew jobs. The remainder of the students enter the field as assistant superintendents. In most years, 50 percent of the students take jobs in the field in states other than Michigan.

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# English Gardens Introduces Newly Developed Planting Flats

**The Magic Planter: The Instant Color Flat is designed to cut down on planting labor and create instant color in the landscape. The 11x22 inch flat contains 18 four-inch plants. The unique design enables the roots to grow directly into the soil, makes weeding less necessary and ensures uniform spacing of the plants.**

M B C C C S A  
Member Mike Bay, superintendent at Tam-O-Shanter Country Club, alerts fellow members to a labor-saving product for achieving instant color in the landscape this year. It is the "Magic Planter Flat," a newly developed product from English Gardens, a metropolitan Detroit area nursery and garden center retailer.

"Magic Planter: The Instant Color Flat" is 11 x 22 inches, the same size as a standard flat, and contains 18 four-inch plants.

The flat actually contains two trays nested on top of one another while growing. Each cell has nine large holes on the bottom of the tray enabling the roots to grow directly into the soil, so there is no need to remove the plants from the tray to plant them into the ground. This unique design makes weeding less necessary and ensures uniform spacing of the plants.

"To plant, simply separate the trays and place them a few inches apart," explains John Darin, Sr., president of English Gardens. "Place some soil around the outside of the flat, and the blooms will cover the flat so it is unnoticeable. When the flowering season is completed, remove the flats from the ground for easy clean-up."



Compared with a standard cell flat, Magic Planter: The Instant Color Flat saves 80 percent on planting and maintenance time. Based on actual job installations, a three-person crew can plant 1,000 flats covering 9,000 square feet in an eight-hour day. Ongoing maintenance is significantly reduced because the flat prevents weeds from growing.

"We've been using the Magic Planter Instant Color Flats for several years at a test site with great results," says Darin. "The flats are practical for commercial landscapers as well as homeowners. They are easy to use, and since the plants are bigger, color is obtained in the landscape more quickly."

The flats, available at all three English Gardens stores this spring, will contain impatiens, begonias, petunias and other popular annuals.

For additional information, contact John Darin, Jr. of English Gardens at (313) 278-5244 or Tim Smith of Four Star Greenhouses at (313) 654-6420.

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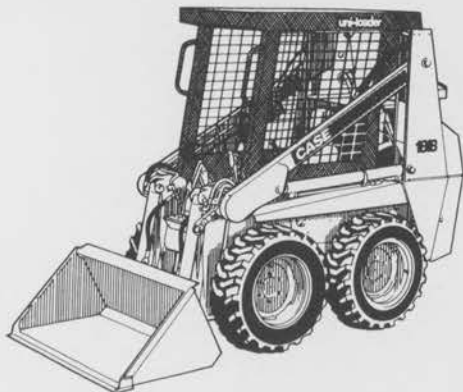
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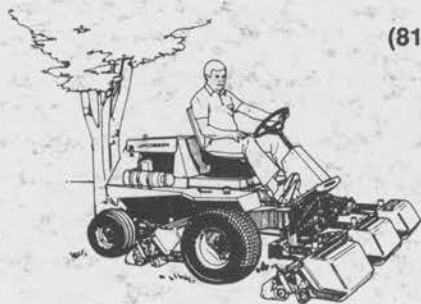
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