THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MICHIGAN AND BORDER CITIES GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION

GOLF COURSE SUPT. ASSOCIATION

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MEMBER PROFILE: Rick Murphy Bay Pointe Golf Club

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Contact for MBCGCSA Information

MBCGCSA P.O. Box 173, Troy, MI 48099 (810) 362-1108 Fax (810) 362-1736

Kate Mason **Executive Secretary**

Executive Editor Paul Kolbe

Publishers Kolka & Robb, Inc.

Vicki Robb, Publisher Kathleen Kolka, Creative Director Katie Elsila, Editor Tiffanie Howell, Associate Editor Fred Wessells, Copy Editor Michael Wagester, Designer Sally Clark, Advertising Judy Harpster, Production

Advertising 30700 Telegraph Road & editorial Suite 1401 offices are Bingham Farms, MI 48025-4524 at: (810) 642-9580 • FAX (810) 642-5290

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE John Cooney Tim Dorner Paul Kolbe Jane St. John Steve Sump



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Cover photo courtesy of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America.

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CALENDAR OF EVENIS

Michigan Arborist Association will hold seminars during January and February at the City of Southfield Civic Center. The schedule is as follows. For information, contact Michigan Arborist Association, 637 Brown Road, Orion, MI 48359, (810) 391-0030.

January 31

Vehicle Inspection, Operation & Maintenance

February 7

Insect Practical - Applicator Training Lawrence Ehlers, Presenter

February 28

Disease Practical - Applicator Training Charles Powell, Ph.D., Presenter

Michigan State University Extension in Genesee and Oakland counties will hold programs on implementing Intelligent Plant Management (IPM) for landscape plant materials. All programs will be held in Flint. To receive a copy of the program brochure, call the Oakland County Extension office at (810) 858-0887 or the Genesee County Extension office at (810) 732-1470, ext. 6.

February 2 - "Starting Right: Selecting, Installing and Maintaining Plant Materials"

February 9 - "Managing the Causes of Plant Problems"

February 13 - "Insects & IPM Strategies"

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I hope everyone had a wonderful and joyous holiday season, and I wish success to all as we start another year. As 1995 begins, I ask myself, what can I look forward to this year and more importantly or realistically, what can I hope for?"

First, I hope for good health for ourselves and family members. As we get older we realize how important it is to keep fit and in good health. In our demanding profession, keeping healthy is a must if we

want to have the energy for all the required procedures and regulations necessary to maintain a quality product. Good health takes time and patience, but the results are worth it.

Next, I look forward to the two or three months of quality time we can enjoy with our families prior to opening day. With the tension in today's world and the attitude of the youth, it's so important to spend time with them and to offer the best guidance and advice we can possibly render.

Although the first months of '95 are for personal renewal, they also are a time for education. MSU and the Michigan Turf Foundation offer perfect opportunities to pick up new techniques or brush up on old ones that the years, perhaps, have erased from our minds. Along with the Michigan Turf Foundation Conference, some of us can enjoy the GCSAA Convention and Trade Show. Each year everyone is anxious to view the new turf products the industry has come up with to make our jobs easier.

I also look forward to the new projects that have been approved—projects that we always wanted to accomplish, but seemed unobtainable, such as the new green or tee that has been needed for so long, the irrigation system upgrade to provide the volumes of water to keep our turf healthy or renovations such as Katke-Cousins' new bunkers.

We always can hope that the weather in 1995 is perfect for the golfing world and the superintendents who grow and maintain the land that golfers seem to take for granted.

Looking back, as I was graduating from high school, I wondered what it would be like in the year 2000. I already had seen men land on the moon, TV, airplanes as big as buildings, automobiles transformed from ugly boxes to aerodynamic beauties and was impressed with the technology advances. Now in 1995 you almost can see around the corner to 2000, but what to expect? Hopefully, PEACE in the entire world, sunny skies and improved technologies to help us maintain our little piece of Earth to the best of our abilities.

Have a great vacation, and rest up for the new thoughts of the 1995 season.

Jay Delcamp

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Report and photos by Tiffanie Howell

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1994

The new officers for MBCGCSA are:

Jay DelCamp President Carey Mitchelson Vice President Paul Dushane Secretary Treasurer

New Directors for 3 years: Mark McKinley Ed Hock

The winner of the Clarence Wolfrom Classic was Jim Hyde, second went to Jerry Prieskorn, third to Mark McKinley and fourth went to Dan Johanningsmeier.





Tellers for the ballots were (L to R) Ward Swanson and Clem Wolfrom



Clem Wolfrom, Fritz McMullen and Jim Hyde. Jim shakes hands with Clem Wolfrom after winning Clarence Wolfrom Classic.





Paul Kolbe and Jim Hyde.



New Board Members: Front row: Paul Dushane, Mark McKinley, Jon Shrieve, Dave Picot; Second row: Ed Hock, Jay Delcamp, Ken DeBusscher, Carey Mitchelson; Third row: Roy Szyndlar and Paul Kolbe.

Member Profile

The Grass Is Always Greener

They say the grass is always greener on the other side of the fence. Rick Murphy, superintendent at Bay Pointe Golf Club and former accountant, has proven it's true.

"I had been at my accounting job for eight years and didn't know if this was something I wanted to do for the rest of my life," he says. Cathy and I had not had children yet. She was very understanding when I decided to take a summer off to explore other options."

Rick called his old elementary school buddy, superintendent Ken DeBusscher, Wabeek Country Club, and shot him a lot of questions about the golf course business. Then he took Ken up on his offer to let him work as a general laborer at Wabeek for the summer.

The long, hard days out on the course that summer did not discourage him, and by fall Rick was enrolled in the turfgrass program at Michigan State University. He attended school Monday through Friday for a year and a half. (Because he already had a college degree, some courses were waived.) "The course work was all new to me. I was surprised by how technical it was, but I loved it," he says. "I don't think the average person has any idea what superintendents must know in order to earn their degrees."

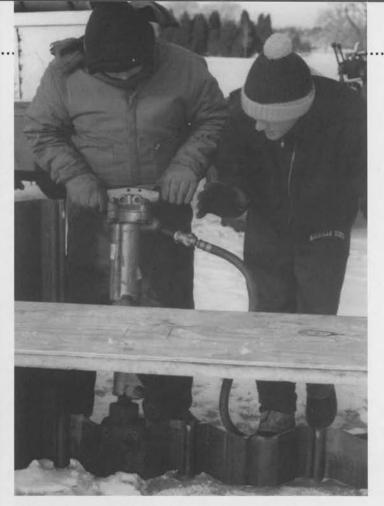
For income, Rick taught accounting courses at night and did per diem accounting work on weekends. Cathy worked until two weeks before the birth of the couple's first child. In 1988, Rick became assistant superintendent at Bay Pointe and accepted his current position in 1990.

What happened to all the years he had invested in accounting? "They weren't wasted," says Rick. "People think of accountants as bean counters, but actually their people skills are almost as important as their technical knowledge. An accountant has to ask a lot of questions and try to extract information that some may not be ready to give. Cultivating people skills has helped me a lot with this job, because the better you can communicate with different types of personalities, the better job you can do in this business."

Overall, Rick is happy he made the career change. "The bottom line is I like working outside, appreciate the natural beauty all around me and enjoy working as a team to get projects done."

Among those projects were: the installation of a new irrigation system and asphalt cart paths around the whole course, major reconstruction work on holes two and eight, building forward tees and extensive sea wall work. (An additional 500 feet of seawall work will begin this January.)

Now busy with their sons, Shawn, 9, Bradley, 6, and Jonathan, 3, Rick and Cathy don't play golf together as much as they used to, although Rick plays his course several times a month. He says his favorite hole is the sixth. "It's the driest hole on the course. We're a low golf course, but



Steel seawall installed by Kurt Muendelein, Assistant Superintendent, and Dave Hinkle.

the sixth hole is up in high ground and always looks nice, even after a downpour."

Like many superintendents, Rick didn't take a vacation last summer. But he and Cathy are looking forward to the GCSAA Convention in San Francisco and hope to catch up there with friends and colleagues in the MBCGCSA.



New PVC seawall installed behind #6 green.

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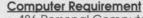
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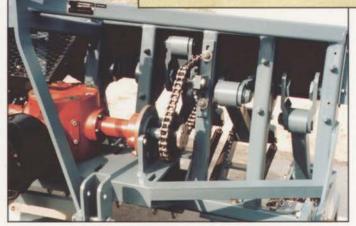
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As the tractor moves forward and the tines (being solid or coring) enter the soil at a perpendicular line, while the tractor p.t.o. is engaged, this creates a lifting effect by displacing the soil upward from the forward motion of the tractor while the tines are in the soil. This described effect relieves compaction of the soil at a depth of the tine penetration used.

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Whenever you see or hear the term "pesticide" used in the media, it is usually accompanied by a word such as toxic or hazardous. As much as we know about science and chemicals, it is amazing how often we misuse the terminology



describing it. toxic versus hazard. Toxicity is a property of all chemical compounds. It can

be defined as the capacity of a compound to cause harm to a living organism. We want our herbicides to cause harm to weeds. We want insecticides to cause harm to injurious insects. Therefore, we want to have toxic materials in our tool box of control measures.

The difference is that we do not want products that are hazardous to human health. Hazard is the potential for an injury to occur. Driving a car, for example, is an extremely hazardous practice. The potential for serious bodily harm is very high every time you pull out onto the road. And smoking, has been shown to have a high potential for causing harm to your body. And yet, many people continue to smoke.

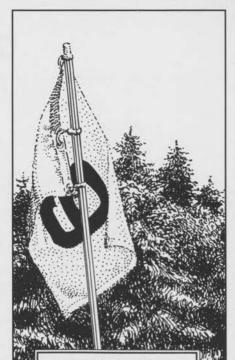
When you put all this together, you have an understanding of risk. Risk is the combination of the toxicity of the material and the hazard level of how it is being used. Even though driving a car is hazardous, you can lower your risk by doing things such as wearing your seat belts and not drinking and driving. Risks from the use of pesticides can be reduced, too. This can be accomplished very simply by using appropriate personal protective equipment. Even if you are using a relatively toxic material, if you are dressed appropriately for the application, it may not necessarily be a risky application. Concurrently, even if you are using a relatively low-toxicity product, but use it in an unsafe manner, you have created a real risk to yourself and those people in the area you are treating.

Of course, a lot of the concern over whether a material is hazardous or not is the result of science being better able to find smaller and smaller quantities. In 1950, for example, if a chemical was found in a concentration of less than one part per million, it was considered too small to measure. In 1960 that went down to one half part per million; in 1965 to one part per billion; in 1975 to one part per trillion; and in 1983 to one part per quadrillion. I can't even give you an analogy to tell you how small that is. And yet, laboratories routinely find quantities in this amount.

We now are finding particles that, 30 years ago, were simply not there. And, I'm sure that in a few more years we'll be finding even smaller quantities. Somebody has to decide when we will draw a line and say this is where we'll call it safe. Society needs to do a better job of deciding whether or not a product is a risk just because it is toxic and we can find it.

Some of that is up to you. When you are talking about these kinds of things with your colleagues or members of the Green Committee, be sure you are using the right terminology. If you are talking about your applications, don't use terms such as toxic or hazard. To many of us that sounds obvious, but you would be amazed how many people really do that. And, maybe even more importantly, don't allow anybody else to use the terms inappropriately. If they say toxic when they should say hazard, explain why. If someone is talking about those toxic pesticides that kill bugs, referring to insecticides, explain the difference in terminology to them.

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GCSAA'S CONFERENCE AND SHOW HEADS TO SAN FRANCISCO

An estimated 15,000 to 16,000 industry profes-

sionals are expected to attend the 66th International Golf Course Conference and Show, February 20-27, 1995, at the Moscone Center in San Francisco. The event, which is the largest in the golf course management industry, is hosted annually by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA).

The week will include nearly 80 educational seminars, sessions and forums; a three-day trade show, which is expected to fill 190,000 square feet of the center; a gala banquet featuring the presentation of GCSAA's Old Tom Morris Award; the association's annual meeting and election of officers; and the 1995 GCSAA Golf Championship.

Conference week opens with the annual GCSAA Golf Championship, which will be played February 20-21 at five courses on the Monterey Peninsula. A field of up to 480 will compete for individual and chapter team honors in the national tournament. Beginning in 1995, GCSAA's golf championship will be presented in partnership with the Toro Company.

Many of the educational and professional development needs of golf course superintendents will be covered in the 60 oneand two-day seminars that will be offered during the first four days of the conference. Seminars will address issues ranging from environmental responsibilities to personal stress management.

Concurrent education sessions and special-interest forums are scheduled Feb 24-27. Half-day programs hosted by allied associations, including the American Society of Golf Course Architects, the American Zoysiagrass Association, the Golf Course Builders Association of America and the United States Golf Association Green Section, round out the conference portion of the week.

Rocky Bleier, legendary running back for the Pittsburgh Steelers, will keynote the Opening Session on Thursday, February 23, at the San Francisco Marriott.

More than 650 companies that manufacture and distribute golf and turf industry products, supplies and services are expected to exhibit at the trade show, which will run February 25-27, at the Moscone Center. A record 671 exhibitors showcased their products and services during the 1994 show in Dallas.

A headline performance by recording artist Anne Murray will provide entertainment at the formal closing banquet on Monday, February 27.

A highlight of that gala evening will be the presentation of the Old Tom Morris Award, GCSAA's highest honor. This year's award will be presented to turf industry giant, Dr. James Watson. Previous recipients of the award include Arnold Palmer, Bob Hope, Patty Berg and Byron Nelson.

The 1994 conference and show in Dallas drew 15,386 people. More than 1,300 of those attending were international visitors and guests, representing more than 50 countries and territories outside the United States.

Since 1926, GCSAA has been the leading professional association for the men and women who manage and maintain golf facilities in the United States and worldwide. From its headquarters in Lawrence, Kansas, the association provides education, information and representation to more than 14,000 individual members from more than 50 countries. GCSAA's mission is to serve its members, advance their profession and enrich the quality of golf and its environment.

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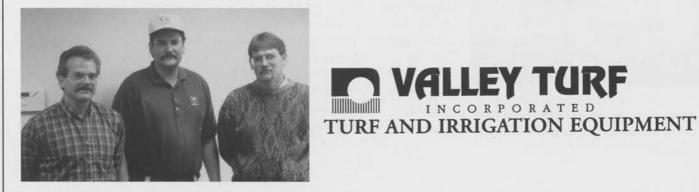
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LLEY TURF

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We thank you for a successful year and look forward to servicing your irrigation needs for many years to come. Thanks again! Bill, George & Randy



As turfgrass and agricultural machines become increasingly complicated to repair and maintain, with sophisticated engines, hydraulics, electrical systems, power trains and computers,



Students learn not only equipmentIurfgrassrepair, but also equipment manage-
ment. Students use one of the many
equipment management computerFoundation
and thecollege of
programs to control parts inventories
and keep track of maintenance records.College of
Agriculture
and Natural

there is a growing need for highly trained personnel.

For the past several years, the Power and Turforass Equipment Technology Program, offered by the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation and the College of Agriculture Resources at Michigan State

University, has successfully offered an innovative program to train certified power/turfgrass equipment technicians to meet this demand.

"The program began at the request of the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation in fall 1990. The foundation wanted to institute a two-fold program: (1) an off-campus program to help current _________ golf course



Hydraulics are used extensively on turf equipment. Students learn about systems, component repairs, troubleshooting and maintenance.

goilcourseof a combina-mechanicstion of tech-improve theirnical andskills and (2)managementan on-cam-courses.pus program"Althoughto help stu-the programdents begin ais adminis-career. Thethrough the C

the first of its

type to be

offered in

Michigan,"

POWER AND TURFGRASS EQUIPMENT TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM FILLS A GROWING NEED

said Frank Galbavi, program coordinator.

The off-campus program is held on a regional basis throughout Michigan. First priority is given to persons who are presently employed as mechanics or technicians or other personnel currently employed in the golf, landscape or lawn industry.

The on-campus program begins with six

months of classroom and hands-on experiences. This is followed by an internship, after which students return to MSU for three more months of a combination of technical and management



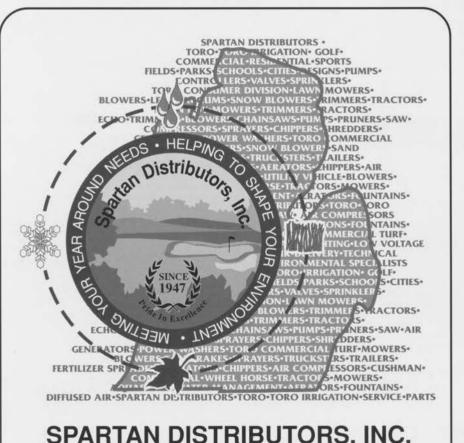
Reel maintenance is a very important part of turf equipment maintenance. Students learn how to grind, back lap and adjust reels.

through the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, many MBCGCSA members, equipment manufacturers and private businesses have contributed significantly to its success," said Galbavi, who may be reached at (517) 353-8850.

ENDOR PROFIL

Valley Turf, Rain Bird and Randy Lane

Randy Lane became the southeast regional sales manager for Valley Turf. Inc. last winter. Since Valley Turf is the Rain Bird Golf Distributor, Randy keeps busy by calling on all the golf courses in his territory.



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Before coming to Michigan, Randy operated his own irrigation company in Indiana and has been involved in irrigation for more than 17 years. The turf industry as a whole has been Randy's life. Before starting his business. Randy graduated with a turf degree from Danville Community College in Danville, Virginia, and had aspirations of becoming a golf course superintendent. Little did he know he would spend the next two decades developing a successful business with his brother.

His duties with Valley Turf also include managing the Walled Lake office. Randy's successful attitude already has led to numerous success stories, mostly due to his continued professionalism and commitment to service. Valley Turf has three locations within Michigan along with a fully staffed irrigation division and support staff.

When Randy finds time to get away, he enjoys snowmobiling, boating, waterskiing and returning to the links to enjoy the beauty of his efforts. If you haven't had the opportunity to meet Randy, give him a call.



Randy Lane



COMMITTEE REPORT

Submitted by the Golf Committe

Committe Members: Roy Szyndlar, Fritz McMullen, John Skaife, Scott Ford, Mark Policht and Charlie Gaige

October 19, 1993	Annual Meeting at M	Maple Lane Golf Club		
		olfrom Classic Tournament		
	Winner:	Dale Bauer-60 (Low Net Score)		
April 18, 1994	Joint Meeting with	Ontario GCSA at Point West, Ontario		
		allenge Cup - Canadians Have the Cup!		
	our min one			
May 20, 1994	Special Olympics at	Bald Mountain Golf Club		
may 20, 1004	• 4-Man Scrar			
	Winners:	Jay Delcamp		
	winners.	Gordon Nelson		
		Tom Gill		
		John Swidereck		
huma 17 1001		Western Nichigen CCCA		
June 13, 1994		Western Michigan GCSA		
	2-Man Matc	in Play Event		
	Rain Out			
hub. 40 4004				
July 18, 1994	Heather Hills Golf Cl			
	Scramble Ev			
	Winners:	Paul Kolbe		
		Dr. Joe Vargas		
		Jeff Akers		
August 15, 1994	Great Oaks Country			
		Championship		
	Champion:	Mark Policht (2nd year in a row)		
		Gary Thommes		
		Tim Barno		
		Fritz McMullen		
		1 L L		
	1st Flight:	John Nowakowski		
		Steve Sump		
		Tom Stark		
		Ron Adams		
	2nd Flight:	Dan Donohue		
		Ed Stesney		
		Kurt Kraly		
		Ray Manion		
September 26, 1994	Moravian Hills Country Club			
	• 2 Man Best	Ball		
	Winners:	John Skaife		
		Mark Policht		
October 25, 1994		Maple Lane Golf Club		
	Clarence We	olfrom Classic		
	Winner:	Jim Hyde-66 (Low Net Score)		



"Michigan and Border Cities. Kate speaking." "Hi, Kate. Peter Miller here.""Well, I'm interested in taking the Superintendent Certification Exam. Wondered if you knew anything about that?"

"I'm assuming you have met the requirements to be considered an applicant." "Oh, ves."

"Good. As a matter of fact, I recently spoke with Penny at GCSAA, who's in charge of certification of superintendents, and was informed that I, as Executive Secretary, am qualified to monitor that testing. Other people qualified to administer the test are clergy, counselors, teachers...professionals not associated with the golf industry." "Why not associated with the golf industry?"

"Well, for instance...another superintendent would possess the necessary knowledge and **might be prone to assist you in taking the exam."** "I suppose that disqualifies my former professor at MSU."

"Actually, no. He would qualify, because he's a teacher and could be objective regarding test giving. Of course, testing also is offered at the national convention every year. So, would you like me to monitor the test?" "Sure! So, what do we do?"

"Well, you, as the applicant, should contact national and tell them you wish to take the exam with me as monitor. They'll send the test to me, and you can come to my office (home) in Troy, where I'll monitor the testing and return the completed exam to GCSAA." "Sounds great!"

"You'll hear from me when I receive the exam. We'll set up a time then." "Okay. Thanks, Kate."

"Anytime, Pete."

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VITAL PRODUCTS IN '95

Hunter Industries has announced the availability of the **G-700 Series**, a rugged new group of golf rotors with the proven Hunter gear-driven system and a radius range from 76' to 100'.

The G-700 Series is available as both a full-circle and adjustable-arc, partcircle sprinkler. The part-circle model can be varied from 40 to 360 degrees.

Both models are offered in check-o-matic, hydraulic and electric valve-in-head configurations.

The G-700 features the industry's first Pure Flow contamination-resistant valve system for reliable performance in dirty water conditions. Convenient through-the-top access also means easier servicing of screen and valve assemblies.

Five interchangeable nozzles are available to vary the G-700's discharge rate from 33.3 to 76.1 GPM. A patented Pressure Port nozzling system ensures efficient water distribution across the entire radius range. A 3-inch pop-up clears turf and prevents excessive wet spots around the head.

The G-700 has a heavy-duty, impact-resistant body with extrathick flange to minimize damage from power equipment. The flange also has a built-in recess for yardage markers.

Like all Hunter Golf rotors, the G-700 Series has a five-year, non-prorated exchange warranty.

For more information, contact your local Hunter Golf distributor in Michigan:

Century Rain Aid, Ann Arbor, 2461 S. Industrial Hwy., 313-668-1020; Grand Rapids, 4620 40th St. SE, 616-954-0660; Livonia, 12780 Currie Ct., 313-462-4050; Madison Heights, 31691 Dequindre Ave., 810-588-2990; Southfield, 22159 Telegraph Rd., 810-358-2994; Washington, 57695 Van Dyke, 810-781-3600.

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The Official Publication of the Michigan and Border Cities Golf Course Superintendents Association