

James B. Beard

# NORTHERN MICHIGAN TURF MANAGERS ASSOCIATION

3733 APOLLO DRIVE • TRAVERSE CITY, MICHIGAN 49684 • 616-943-8343



## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Thomas Brugger  
President

Paul Holmes  
Vice President

David Longfield  
Immediate Past President

### Directors

- James Bogart
- Thomas Brugger
- Thomas Courtemanche
- Damian Kurkowski
- Charles Menefee
- James Olli
- David Sapp
- Robert Steinhurst
- David Little

### Past Presidents

- Ed Karcheski
- C. E. "Tuck" Tate

### Executive Secretary

Thomas Reed  
3733 Apollo Dr.  
Traverse City, MI. 49684  
Phone 616-943-8343

It's a good old-fashioned custom  
When Christmas time is here  
To renew our friendly ties with those  
We think of through the year,  
And so it's only natural  
To send this wish to you--  
"Have a very Merry Christmas  
And the happiest of New Years, too!"

Your Board of Directors would like to wish you a MERRY CHRISTMAS and A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR. They hope that your stocking will be stuffed with good health, good weather, good grass, cooperation by Mother Nature and very few problems in maintaining your green area in 1988.

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November 20, 1987, GCSAA announced that Mr. Jim Olli, superintendent of Hidden Valley Resort has been designated a Certified Golf Course Superintendent. Olli has been superintendent of the Gaylord, Michigan course since 1983. He lives at 1407 Hayes Road, Gaylord, Michigan.

To be certified, a candidate must be employed currently as a golf course superintendent, have five years experience and be a class A member for two years. The superintendent also must pass a rigorous six-hour examination testing knowledge of the rules of golf practical turfgrass management, plant protectant chemicals, business administration, personnel management and the history, ethics, purpose and procedures of GCSAA and the profession. This certification program was instituted in 1971 as a means of recognizing outstanding and progressive golf course superintendents. We are very proud of you Jim and our congratulations. Olli is also a member of our Board.

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1988 is not far away and with it, will come many new opportunities to learn and stay abreast of what is happening in the green industry. The first and probably the most important to we Michiganders will be the 58th Annual Michigan Turfgrass Conference held Monday through Wednesday, January 18-20, 1988 at the Clarion Convention Center in Lansing. This is a conference sponsored by Michigan State University and the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation. A very strong program is slated for this year to address a number of key issues facing the turf industry. Many out of state educators and scientists will be here, there will be 8 basic schools from which to select topics of interest - 4 on Monday afternoon and 4 on Wednesday afternoon. The Tuesday afternoon program will be a joint session addressing "Public Concerns with Pesticides in Turf Maintenance" a very important issue in this industry. Make your arrangements now for this conference.



## BEHIND THE GREENS

### A Monthly Message From the Board by Tom Brogger, President

Merry Christmas from your NMTMA Board of Directors. What a great time of year for those of us in the turf industry. After "missing out" most of last summer due to extremely demanding work schedules, we can now begin to relax and enjoy the Christmas season. Most importantly, we have families to reacquaint ourselves with. Those long summer hours put a lot of strain on the ones we care most about and finally now it's time to catch up. With winter shifting into second gear, we're also looking forward to the MSU Turf Conference in January. What a great way to start out 1988. For some there will be the GCSAA National Conference in Houston in February, or maybe this will be the year you head south for that long awaited vacation. Whatever the case might be, this is the time, while our turf is on hold, to get ourselves in shape for the coming year.

At this time, I would like to thank 1987 NMTMA President, Jon Scott, for all the time and effort he has given our organization. Not only as president, but also as vice-president and dedicated member during his five years at the Grand Traverse Resort. Jon's organization, working attitude and great knowledge of the industry, allowed him to take on a tremendous amount of work and somehow always have it done on time. You're leaving this organization in very good shape, Jon, we thank you for that and wish you well in your new job. Jon will stay a member of our organization while from his new location at the Valahala Golf Club in Lexington, Kentucky.

Looking back on 1987, we see many good things happening within the NMTMA. In March, along with our fellow Mid-Michigan group, we had a session in Grayling with Ed Fredericks from the Michigan Department of Labor, discussing the Right to Know Law. This meeting answered many questions where beforehand there had been some confusion on what was actually required of us in order to comply. The Turf Management Seminar at Traverse City Country Club in April was extremely well attended and had a program that was not only timely, but applicable. Each year our mini-conference brings up all the top researchers from MSU and this year also featured golf course architect, Jerry Matthews, O.M. Scott and Sons' Eugene Mayer and Garland Golf Course Superintendent, Dave Longfield. It was a day packed full of new information and bright ideas that really got us off and running as we began to prepare for the coming season. It was about this time when we began to pick up many new members. The next big event was our Michigan Turf Foundation Benefit Day at the Treetops Golf Course in Gaylord. The participation here was outstanding. Both shotguns were filled and many new sponsors got involved. The bottom line to all of this is that at MSU in January, soon after our Spartans thump USC in the Rose Bowl (I had to get that in), we will be turning over \$6,500.00 to the MTF, which represents our largest donation ever. Once again, many thanks go to host-superintendent, Damian Kurkowski and all those affiliated with making our tournament such a huge success. It should be noted that as tough a summer as it was, wherever we went for meetings in 1987, we always found turf healthy and the courses in excellent condition. How lucky we are to have all this natural beauty right here in Michigan. The Musser Benefit at the Bear in September was down a little this year, but still raised a significant amount of money that will go toward safer sports turf, with our children and other youngsters the main beneficiaries. The final event of the year was the Third Annual "Tuck Tate" Membership Tournament. Although many of us drove snow-covered roads on our way to Schuss Mountain that day, Gary Pulsipher stayed hot and won medalist honors with a 77. An unbelievable score under those conditions.

Behind the Greens  
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There were many more highlights in 1987, as I have really just touched on a few. As our organization continues to grow, the opportunities to further our knowledge has also expanded. If there is something you would like to hear more about, or if you have any ideas concerning the NMTMA, please notify myself or anyone of the Board members. We are already getting ready for next year. Have a Happy Holiday and I hope to see you soon.

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## 59th International Golf Course Conference & Show



# HOUSTON

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## G C S A A

February 1-8, 1988  
George R. Brown Convention Center, Houston, Texas

◆ 30 Seminars ◆ Golf Championships ◆ Trade Show ◆ Annual Meeting



For Conference, Seminar or Exhibitor Information:  
1-800/GSA-SUPT or 913/841-2240

Golf Course Superintendents Association of America  
1617 St. Andrews Drive  
Lawrence, KS 66046-9990



# NEWS RELEASE

October 15, 1987

For Immediate Release

## GOLF COURSE MAINTENANCE INDUSTRY EXCEEDS \$3 BILLION

(JUPITER, Fla.) According to the new 1987 edition of the Golf Course Maintenance Report, the estimated worth of golf course maintenance industry in the U. S. today is \$3.54 billion. This figure includes the cost of labor, equipment and supplies needed to maintain the 1.2 million acres of land occupied by the nation's 12,384 golf facilities.

The 80-page report was co-produced by the National Golf Foundation (NGF) and the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA).

"The golf course superintendent is a vital element in the golf industry and plays a critical role in maintaining the nation's golf courses so they are enjoyable for the 20.2 million U.S. golfers," says NGF President David B. Hueber "And the NGF is proud to have been part of this all important study."

The new report supersedes a much less comprehensive 25-page joint study report done in 1985. "We feel that this year's expanded report provides valuable information not available through any other source in the golf course and turfgrass industries," says Donald E. Hearn, GCSAA President.

The 1987 report is broken out in nine geographic regions, and, by the public and private facilities within these regions. It covers irrigation sources, expenses, labor hours and wages, golf car fleet size and maintenance costs, environmental conditions and professional responsibilities for each region.

The data was collected through a 10-page survey sent to more than 2,000 golf course superintendents throughout the U.S. in November 1986. The data is presented in a manner that allows the superintendents to make a comparative analysis of their operation to others within the region.

"To collect and analyze the differing operations of the superintendents throughout the country and then segment them by facility type is a service that not only directly benefits every superintendent but also, impacts everyone who enjoys the game," Hueber says.

"Golf course superintendents and others involved in the maintenance of the nation's golf courses will find the information contained in this report to be useful in determining the factors that make their golf courses unique from others in their region," says Hearn.

"Golf course superintendents were responsible for the purchase of over \$214 million in new equipment in 1986," adds Hueber. "This report is an outstanding indication of the professionalism and dedication of the GCSAA and its members."

A two-page summary of the Golf Course Maintenance Report is available from both the NGF and GCSAA at no charge. The complete report sells for \$90. NGF is golf's report and promotional organization founded in 1936. Its membership includes more than 500 golf companies, national, state and local golf associations; golf course architects and builders; golf publications; and more than 3,000 golf courses across the United States.

October 8, 1987 , was the date of the 3rd ANNUAL TUCK TATE CHAPTER GOLF TOURNAMENT and the Annual business meeting of this Association held at Shuss Mountain Golf Club near Mancelona. There was an excellent turnout for this tournament and much business was accomplished for the Association. We would like to bring you up to date with what transpired and what was accomplished.

WINNERS IN THE TUCK TATE CHAPTER CHAMPIONSHIP :

LOW NET CHAMPIONAND TROPHY WINNER	HOWARD ALTMAN 68
LOW GROSS WINNER	GARY PULSIPHER 77
CLOSEST TO THE HOLE	DAVID SAPP
LONGEST DRIVE	DAVID HOFACKER
SKINS WINNERS	DAVID SAPP
	PAUL HOLMES
	DAVID HOFACKER
	DAN LUCAS
	TOM BRUGGER
	GARY PULSIPHER
	BOB MALESKI SR.

Howard Altman as winner of this tournament received a trophy plus a Rolex watch donated by Tuck Tate. He will be the defending champion in 1988 at the 4th annual event.

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It is possible that many of you do not know that at every one of our meetings, a beautiful green jacket is given to someone that attends. These green jackets if bought in a store would retail for about 150 dollars. At our meetings, everyone receives a ticket and the door prize is the green jacket. Mr. Jim Inman with Spartan Distributors was the lucky winner in October. Your chances of winning is as good as any other member however you must attend to participate in the drawing.

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After the treasurer,s report of the need for increased income at this meeting, a dues increase was voted by the membership. This will be the first increase in over five years and is needed to meet the increased cost of operating the Association. Beginning with the fiscal year starting November 1, 1987, Class A membership dues will move from 20.00 to 30.00, Class B from 15.00 to 20.00, Class C to remain the same at no set amount, Class D to stay at 15.00, Class E to remain at 10.00, Class G to remain at 30.00 and student class to increase from 12.50 to 15.00.

No individual invoice for dues will be sent out to each member and this should serve as notification for you to mail in your correct amount of dues to our Treasurer Damiam Kurkowski, 755 Pine Briar, Gaylord, Michigan 49735 or give to our Executive Secretary Tom Reed. Your cooperation in getting your check in their hands as quickly as possible will be appreciated.

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I've always allowed that the rigors of life are better than rigor mortis.

*John M. Cline*

October being the date of our Annual Meeting, election of directors took place. Three directors were elected to serve a term on the Board for a period of three years. They are Jeff Holmes (Grand Traverse Resort), W. Brent Nelson (Shanty Creek) and Jim Olli CGCS (Hidden Valley). Also elected to the Board for a two year term was Kim Olson (Lawn Equipment).

Completing their term on the Board was Jim Bogart and Dave Little. We want to thank these gentlemen for contributing their time and service for the benefit of all we members.

Normally after the election of new directors, the officers for the new fiscal year are elected however due to the lateness of the meeting officer election was put off until the November 10th, Board Meeting at the Holiday Inn, Grayling. At this November meeting, Thomas Brogger was elected President, Paul Holmes was elected Vice-President and Damiam Kurkowski was elected Treasurer.

After the election of officers for the fiscal year, the following committees were then appointed :

PROGRAM & GOLF COMMITTEE

Paul Holmes (Chairman)  
Charlie Menefee  
Brent Nelson  
All Meeting Day Host,s

EDUCATION & SCHOLARSHIP

Damiam Kurkowski (Chairman)  
Jim Bogart  
Kim Olson  
Jeff Holmes  
David Sapp  
Andy Norman

BYLAW & CODE OF ETHICS

Bob Steinhurst, Jr.(Chairman)  
David Longfield  
Charlie Menefee  
Jeff Holmes

MEMBERSHIP

David Sapp (Chairman)  
Tom Reed  
Kim Olson  
Tom Courtemanche

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Jeff Holmes (Chairman)  
Tom Reed  
David Longfield  
Brent Nelson

M.T.F. BENEFIT DAY

Charlie Menefee (Chairman)  
Tom Brogger  
Jim Olli  
Paul Holmes  
Damiam Kurkowski  
David Longfield

FUND RAISING

Jim Olli (Chairman)  
Brent Nelson  
Kim Olson  
Tom Courtemanche

G.C.S.A.A. LIAISON

Charlie Menefee

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

Damiam Kurkowski (Chairman)  
Tom Reed  
Bob Steinhurst, Jr.

MUSSER FOUNDATION

Jeff Holmes (Chairman)  
Damiam Kurkowski  
Brent Nelson  
Tom Reed

Newsletters for the fiscal year will be forthcoming to members beginning in December, February, April, May, June, July, August, September and October. These letters will be designed to inform you of current happenings in the Association and the green industry. To make these letters more interesting, we would like input from members. Anyone wanting to write an article, suggestion or activity which would interest all of us, would be welcomed. So, if we have any authors out there, please come forth with what you have of interest.

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As we reported in our last letter, Jon Scott, our ex-president was transferred to Louisville, Kentucky by the Jack Nicklaus organization. We are happy to report that our new Board member Jeff Holmes has been promoted to golf course superintendent of both of the Grand Traverse Resort courses. Our congratulations Jeff and good luck in your new executive position.

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The 1988 Membership Booklet is expected to be printed and ready for distribution in early April. We would like the information on members to be as current and up to date as possible. If there is any wrong information relative to your name, address, zip code, telephone number or change that you would like, will you please make the corrections on a piece of paper or postcard and either mail or give to either Damiam Kurkowski, Tom Reed or Bob Steinhurst, Jr. We thank you for your cooperation in advance.

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In June a Michigan Turfgrass Benefit Day was held at the Sylvan Resort "TREETOPS" Course, near Gaylord. It was a very successful benefit and as a result, a donation of 6500 dollars will be made to the M.T.F. at the Michigan Turfgrass Conference. Presentation at that time will be made by our new President Tom Brogger.

Also at this Conference, a scholarship will be given to a deserving student in the name of the Northern Michigan Turf Managers Association. The amount of this donation has been increased to seven hundred and fifty dollars, this year.

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Golf Association of Michigan (GAM) has indicated through Jeff Revard, their Executive Director that they would like to conduct an educational meeting with our Association sometime in either late February or early March. No details have been worked out on this subject however we will keep you informed when it develops.

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Thinking ahead to the month of April, again this year it is planned to have another seminar with Michigan State University at the Traverse City Golf and Country Club. As details are worked out on this event you will be informed. Meantime, please mark your calendar and plan on being at this educational seminar.

## If Tree Care Drives You Up A Tree You're Doing It Wrong

If ever there was a member of the growing world that is abused, misused and generally forgotten, it's the tree. One of the indications is when a tree's normal water and nutrient uptake by the roots is interrupted. The roots cannot function simply because they have been separated from the water and soil— it's nutrient source. At the same time, the top of the tree continues to use water and nutrients at a greater pace than the root system can replace. This results in an immediate shortage of both water and nutrients.

Tree planting or transplanting usually places them in a precarious condition for survival. Correct planting techniques are critical to insure the survival of new planted trees. There are many factors to consider when planting—including time of the year, width and depth of the planting hole, watering, and support and protection of trunks. Many golf courses are spending hundreds of dollars each year planting trees and every year they are pulling out as many hundreds of dollars worth of dead trees. This can be attributed to bad timing of planting and the improper care of the trees after they have been planted.

The best time of the year for planting, usually early spring or late fall, is important and varies with the species and location and dormant plants (not in leaf) undergo less drastic changes. If the conditions for transplanting are not favorable, the tree suffers "transplant shock." The degree of "shock" depends upon soil and atmospheric conditions as well as the state of growth of the tree.

For instance, a tree moved bare root (no soil attached) while in full leaf on a hot day with low humidity, will experience greater shock and have less survival chances than one moved with soil attached to the roots, in a dormant state and during cool, moist weather. This is why bare root material is handled only during the short dormant season in early spring. Planting holes should be wide and deep enough to accommodate bare-rooted trees without cramping the root.

For balled-root stock, holes should be at least a foot wider than the diameter of the ball. Burlap wraps should be untied and rolled back from the trunk after planting. Plastic burlap and plastic bag wraps will not decompose in the soil and should be completely removed. It is recommended filling the hole with topsoil and cover it to the depth that the tree was growing in the nursery. Water must be added immediately after planting and water periodically for two seasons. One of the major reasons why so many trees are lost, many people might water after planting but forget to follow up. Watering should be heavy near the roots about once a week for several hours unless there is enough rain to saturate the soil. Watering should continue seven to ten days after the last rain and continued throughout the growing season and well into the fall.

Trees lose water rapidly when temperatures are high, the humidity is low and the wind velocity is strong. Such conditions result in a steep gradient between tree surface and the air. If the tree is in full leaf, it will lose water faster than when its not in leaf. Water, however, is lost to a

significant degree even when trees are considered dormant. Frequent watering is advised in dry periods especially during the winter months.

Many superintendents stop watering trees in the winter even though the soil may be bone-dry down deep, the atmospheric humidity at its lowest and cold, drying winds are generally the strongest. Evergreens, of course, suffer first because they have a full leaf surface throughout the year.

The fertilizing of trees should be done to stimulate leaf production and rapid growth. Apply a pound per inch of stem diameter of a balanced fertilizer such as 5-10-5, 4-12-4, or 10-10-10. Do not use fertilizer at the time of transplanting. It may burn the tender new roots and cause severe injury or death of the newly planted tree. Do not exceed the recommended dosage rate of the fertilizer.

Professional advice concerning maintenance and care of trees is available from several sources. The State Agricultural Experiment Station or the County Cooperative Extension Service office are two helpful sources. They also have many publications that contains detailed information which may answer your particular questions about trees. Keep in mind that prevention is the best solution to tree disease problems, and people-pressure disease can be prevented only through awareness, concern, and the positive action of the people themselves.

Credit: New Mexico GCSA

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**"Remember, a plant is a living thing, and should be treated accordingly. Unlike most living things, it has no way to make its needs known other than its appearance, which will reflect the kind of treatment it receives from its guardian—you!"**

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**Renew  
Your  
Member-  
ship  
Now!**

