

*James B. Beard*

# NORTHERN MICHIGAN TURF MANAGERS ASSOCIATION

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



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David Longfield, CGCS

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## FIRST MONTHLY MEETING IN 1988 WILL BE MARCH 16th

WHERE? HOLIDAY INN, GRAYLING

Last years March meeting on "THE RIGHT TO KNOW" was so successful, it was recommended that we try another meeting this year with a different theme. This will be a meeting where everyone can attend and we encourage you to bring your Greens Chairman, Club Officials or anyone associated with their golf course operations.

Golf Association of Michigan will have the most people to offer information and explain their position on golf in our state. Their will also be a representative of the United States Golf Association, plus others who will offer very interesting information in the operation of golf clubs.

Jeff Revard, Executive Director of GAM will explain The G.A.M. and what it does.

Jim Farrell(USGA)will talk on Preparing For A Tournament.

Jeff Gorney (Sup't-Architect) will speak on the same subject from a Superintendent's view having hosted the Greater Grand Rapids Senior Tour Event for several years.

Joe Luyckx (GAM) subject is Handicapping & The Superintendent.

Bill Dickens (GAM) speaks on What Brings Them Back.

Neil McPhee (GAM) with a panel including Golf Course Owner, Manager, Superintendent and Pro will explain what we would all like to understand, Working Together To Make Things Work.

In addition, there will be a general discussion so if you have any good ideas, please write them down and present them for discussion.

Cost will be \$15.00 which includes Coffee and Donuts in the morning and a hot buffet at lunch. Registration begins at 8:45 A.M. and the meeting will run from 9:30 to 3:00. We must be able to tell Holiday Inn of the number that will be present so please return the enclosed postcard immediately.

Contact the people that you are bringing along while fresh on your mind. Lets make every meeting something to remember, this year.

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Mark your calendar for Monday, April 11th, for the mini Michigan State University Seminar at Traverse City Golf and Country Club. Further and final details will be forthcoming in our next newsletter.



BEARD  
COLLECTION

## BEHIND THE GREENS

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

Hello again and welcome to another year with your Northern Michigan Turf Manager's Association. It's the middle of February and we have just experienced a slight warming trend. My calendar reminds me that this change in our weather pattern coincides with a new moon. I had an old farmer friend from Bay City who used to tell me that when you experience a change in the weather on or near the time of a new or full moon, you should see that same basic pattern continue for the next ten days or so. He also told me that a change is more likely around a new moon rather than a full moon. Now, if you've got all that straight, let's think back to the last half of February and see just how true this is.

How many of you attended the Michigan Turfgrass Conference in Lansing? I did, and once again, found it to be extremely informative. Michigan State University has always been on the leading edge in research and along with several other "top notch" speakers from around the country, we had what was probably one of the best conferences ever. Our hats go off to the Michigan Turf Foundation for organizing such a quality event. Incidentally, we all can feel very proud in the fact that our strong support to the MTF Benefit Tournaments has helped make these turf conferences such a huge success.

While down at State, Damian Kurkowski and his Education & Scholarship Committee conducted interviews with several MSU Turf students who had applied for our annual scholarship award. This year's recipient is Thomas L. VanSipe. Tom is from Alpena and got interested in turf while working at the Alpena Golf Club. He carries a 3.5 GPA and last summer did his placement training with the Robert Trent Jones organization while in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. Tom came across as being very friendly, down-to-earth and dedicated to his future profession. We are proud to have selected Tom VanSipe as our Scholarship Award winner and wish him good luck in his future endeavors.

The GCSAA Conference and Show in Houston, Texas was one of the highlights in my professional career. I guess I was surprised more than anything else. I didn't realize how much emphasis is put on the Trade Show. The amount of information that can be gained from something like this is unbelievable. With an area larger than a football field, we are exposed to equipment and other golf course related products that we might otherwise never have heard about. In the two days I spent on the show room floor, I probably wasn't able to talk to even a third of the manufacturer's on display. Having them there is another great feature in all of this, because if you have any kind of question about a particular product, they'll be right there to answer it for you. For those who have been thinking about joining the GCSAA and attending their annual conference and show, I would encourage you to do so. I'm sure you'll find it worth the time and money, as I did.

One final note from Houston: If you think you have an invention or idea that could be salable, you might want to look into it. Jerry Maas did and Standard liked it. Jerry is a NMTMA member and greens superintendent at Maple Hill Golf Club in Hemlock. What he's done is come up with a way to fill ball washers while eliminating the mess and hassle. It's a twenty (20) gallon cubical plastic container with a small water pump that runs off your vehicle's battery. There is a medium length of flexible tubing that fits right inside the ball washer and goes to work while you change towels, empty trash or whatever. I imagine it will have a lot of uses like filling electric golf car batteries, watering outdoor flower baskets, as well as the ball washer idea. Good luck, Jerry, and we'll be looking for your name in the Fortune 500 real soon.

In closing, I would like to say that I am looking forward to serving you in the upcoming year. Our Board of Directors has been working very hard to make our organization the best possible. There are a lot of worthwhile programs planned, and we encourage your continued support. For the latest information on upcoming events, check your monthly newsletter.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Mike Barton who was superintendent at Wequetonsing Golf Club, Harbor Springs has moved to Sylvania Country Club, Sylvania, Ohio as their golf course superintendent. Dominic Bragg who was assistant Super has assumed the position of superintendent at Wequie. We have two new members to report this month:

Tim John, from Miller West, Inc.

Paul Galligan, assistant superintendent, Bear Course, Grand Traverse Resort.

Welcome aboard.

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MICHIGAN TURFGRASS FOUNDATION

Tuesday, January 19th, at the Michigan Turfgrass Conference, M.T.F. held their annual meeting with the election of new Directors. Four directors were elected for a three year term:

Kurt Thuemmel was elected representing Western Michigan G.C.S.A.

Jim Bogart was elected as representative of Commercial Turfgrass Suppliers.

Jeff Gorney was elected as an At Large candidate.

Tom Mason was also elected as an At Large Candidate.

At the Board Meeting following the Conference, Kurt Thuemmel was elected President, Tom Mason was elected Vice-President, Jeff Gorney was elected Treasurer for one year. Others on the M.T.F. Board are:

Gordon LaFontaine, Executive Secretary, Lawn Equipment, Novi.

Hank DeVries, DeVries Beautiful Lawns, Hudsonville.

Tim Doppel, Atwood Lawn Spray, Sterling Heights

Charles Gage, Lakelands Golf & Country Club, Brighton

Ron Juip, Brown City Sod and Produce, Brown City

Kurt Kraly, Wilkie Turf Equipment, Davisburg.

David Longfield, Garland Golf Course, West Branch

Jon Maddern, City of Farmington Hills

Fritz McMullen, Forest Lake Country Club, Bloomfield Hills.

Jim Bogart, Turfgrass, Inc., Rockfort

Michigan Turfgrass Foundation funds almost all research being done in the state of Michigan therefore anyone involved in the green industry should be a member. If you or your employer is not a member, we suggest that you procure an application and become a member.

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BY-LAW CHANGE UNDER MEMBERSHIP CLASS

Class "G" Sustaining Members. To qualify for Sustaining Membership, an applicant must be a business firm, governmental body or other organization interested in the growing, management or production of turfgrass. Each sustaining member shall have the right to name it's owners, employees or other agents as it's representative to the Association. Such representative shall have the privileges of the Association as the Board may specify from time to time by standing rules, INCLUDING those of voting and holding office as now specified under Article IV.

This change would allow these business members to vote and hold office.

This is just a proposal from the Board of Directors. A vote will be taken on this possible amendment at the April meeting at Traverse City.



**USGA®**

FRANK HANNIGAN  
Senior Executive Director

P.O. Box 616  
Crystal Lake, Illinois 60014  
(815) 459-5590

FACT SHEET - USGA GREEN SECTION CONFERENCE  
THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 1988

Location: Blythefield Country Club, Route 1, Belmont,  
Michigan (north side of Grand Rapids)

Sponsor: United States Golf Association  
USGA Green Section, Great Lakes Region  
James M. Latham, Jr., Director  
8727 North Deerwood Drive  
Brown Deer, Wisconsin 53209  
(414)-354-2203

USGA Regional Affairs, Mid-Continent Region  
James A. Farrell, Manager  
P.O. Box 616  
Crystal Lake, Illinois 60014  
(815)-459-5590

Cosponsors: Golf Association of Michigan and the Western  
Michigan Golf Course Superintendents Association

The United States Golf Association conducts a series of one-day regional conferences each year in various cities in March and April. These programs are designed to provide valuable information regarding turfgrass management for golf courses and other golf and club management related subjects to club directors, green chairmen, course owners and operators, golf course superintendents, golf professionals and club managers.

Certification points will be awarded to members of professional associations by their respective association.

There is a \$30.00 per person advance registration fee which includes a luncheon. Registration at the door will be \$40.00 per person.

Conference registration forms will be distributed on or about February 1, 1988.

For more information contact USGA Regional Affairs, James A. Farrell, Manager, P.O. Box 616, Crystal Lake, Illinois 60014 (815)-459-5590.

USGA GREEN SECTION CONFERENCE - MARCH 10, 1988, BLYTHEFIELD C.C.  
BELMONT (GRAND RAPIDS), MICHIGAN

- 8:00 Registration - Coffee & Rolls
- 9:00 WELCOME  
Roger G. Barton, President  
Western Michigan GCSA  
Belmont, Michigan
- 9:15 THE ALPHABET SOUP OF GOLF  
Jeffrey L. Rivard, Executive Director  
Golf Association of Michigan  
Farmington Hills, Michigan
- 9:45 SPECIES ADAPTATION TO STRESS CONDITIONS - HOW LOW THE MOWING HEIGHT?  
HOW HIGH THE TEMPERATURE?  
Mark Grundman, Turf Specialist  
Northrup King Company  
Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin
- 10:30 BREAK
- 10:45 EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION AND TEACHING THROUGH IMPROVED VISUAL AIDS  
James A. Farrell, Manager  
Mid Continent Region  
USGA Regional Affairs  
Crystal Lake, Illinois
- 11:15 TROUBLESHOOTING PROBLEM SOIL CONDITIONS  
James M. Latham, Jr., Director  
Great Lakes Region  
USGA Green Section  
Brown Deer, Wisconsin
- 12:00 LUNCHEON
- 1:30 A NEW VIEW OF HISTORY AT THE USGA MUSEUM AND LIBRARY  
Janet Seagle, Librarian/Museum Curator  
USGA Golf House  
Far Hills, New Jersey
- 2:00 SELECTED LEGAL ISSUES OF GOLF CLUB AND GOLF COURSE MANAGEMENT  
Brent D. Rector, Attorney at Law  
Member, Blythefield Country Club  
Belmont, Michigan
- 2:30 MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES FOR STRESS TOLERANCE - PROGRAMMING HIGH QUALITY  
AT LOWEST RISKS  
Dr. Bruce Branham, Assistant Professor  
Michigan State University  
East Lansing, Michigan
- 3:15 U.S. OPEN FILM  
"An Olympic Duel"
- 3:45 ADJOURN

DR. KENYON T. PAYNE RETIRES

Dr. Ken Payne will retire as head of the 2 year program on June 30th. On January 19th at Long's Convention Center, a retirement party was held honoring Dr. Payne's tenure at Michigan State. Thirty four years of his life in education and administration have passed and over 800 students in the 2 year program on Turfgrass are following and practicing his advice, all over the world. About two hundred of his well wishers, students, University Principals, alumnus and others were present for this wonderful affair.

In addition to this, at the 59th Annual GCSAA Conference and Show at Houston, Dr. Payne was also honored by receiving GCSAA's Distinguished Service Award for his many contributions to turfgrass while a Professor of the Department of Crop and Soil Sciences at Michigan State University.

With all these honors, Dr. Payne is not planning on taking life easy as he has already been approached to be a Trustee for ten years down the road on a multi million dollar foundation. It is by doing these additional active affairs and playing racket ball that have kept Ken as youthful as he is. We wish him a wonderful future in retirement.

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WANTED NEWS ARTICLES

We are encouraging guest written articles for our Newsletter. Mike Barton wrote an article a couple of years ago on trickle irrigation to his newly planted trees and this year, we would like to hear from other members on any subject. Something that you have done or accomplished that would be of interest to others in our Association.

At the end of the year, whoever has turned in the best article, as judged by our Education and Scholarship Committee, will receive a cash prize. We have always encouraged this but this time we are offering a prize as many other organizations do.

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59TH ANNUAL G.C.S.A.A. CONFERENCE AND SHOW

February 1 - 8th, 1988, was the big event in turfgrass of the year at Houston, Texas. Over thirteen thousand persons attended making this the largest Conference ever. It was held in the George R. Brown Convention Center in this dynamic Texas city, a new facility, beautiful in every detail. In addition to the equipment displays, 30 educational seminars were held covering almost every turfgrass subject and related programs. All this was climaxed by the evening of the banquet when the gavel was turned over to our new president from Philadelphia, John A. Segui. Also elected was Dennis D. Lyon CGCS Vice-President, Gerald Faubel CGCS was named Secretary-Treasurer and Joseph G. Baidy CGCS was elected the new Director to the Board. Wm. R. Roberts CGCS and Ken Sakai CGCS already on the Board were returned for two more years.

In conjunction with the Conference, many thanks go out to N.M.T.M.A. members who helped run the Michigan Hospitality Room (2541) in the Hyatt Regency Hotel at Houston. Saturday night was probably the busiest night of all and everything went smoothly because of the effort by Bob Steinhurst (Ace Bartender), Jim Olli, Dave Longfield, Jeff Holmes and Tom Brugger. These guys all seemed to be having fun as it's one of the few places where "the help" is also allowed to partake in the festivities.

CUTTING THE RIBBON AT OPENING OF THE TRADE SHOW



The start of the Trade Show where over 350 displays are available for viewing, inspection, comparison or whatever interest you may have be it curiosity, purchase, comparison or trying to find a real bargain. This G.C.S.A.A. Conference and Show remains unique as the greatest show on turf and turf equipment. When President Don Hearn cuts the ribbon, everyone rushes in like a pack of wolves to get first hand knowledge of whats new for 1988. Pictured with Hearn are members of the Board of Directors of G.C.S.A.A.

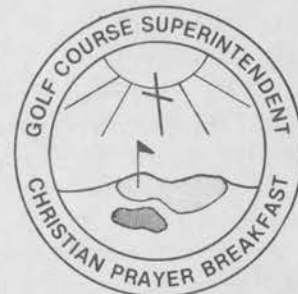
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The N.M.T.M.A. recently donated \$250.00 to the G.C.S.A.A. Scholarship and Research Fund. This money was turned over to them in Houston at the International Conference and Show. Another positive way of putting our money to work.



Many of our members attended this Conference and pictured here are a few of the Board members. From left to right they are, Tom Reed, Executive Director, Dave Longfield, Past Pres., Bob Steinhurst, Jr. Board Member, Tom Brugger, President and Brent Nelson, Board Member. There were many other members present for both educational sessions and the show. Plan to be at Anaheim in 1989 when the next International Show takes place.

Pictured below, Rosemary and Bob Rieschl plus Demie Moore Powell of Aqua Gro.



Another outstanding part of the Houston Show was the Prayer breakfast with well over two hundred present.

Before your calendar is filled with other obligations, please make a list of the dates when we will be having meetings this year. They are as follows:

April 11th, Traverse City Golf & Country Club  
Steve White, Superintendent

May 19th, A-Ga-Ming Golf Club  
Jim Tollefson, Superintendent

June 13th, Garland Golf Club, M. T. F. Benefit  
Dave Longfield, Superintendent

July 12th, West Branch Country Club  
Bob Steinhurst, Jr., Superintendent

August is open, anyone wishing to host this event, please contact Paul Holmes, Vice-President.

September 13th, Lost Lake Woods Club  
Chuck Menefee, Jr., Superintendent

October 5th, Indian River Golf Club, 4th Annual Tuck Tate Championship. Pat Whitman, Superintendent.



Details pertaining to each meeting will be forthcoming in future letters.

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NAME OUR NEWSLETTER CONTEST

Our Board would like to give our Newsletter a name therefore the person who comes up with the best name for our newsletter will win a N.M.T.M.A. Pickering golf shirt.

Suggestions for the name should be sent in on the bottom of the R.S.V.P. postcard enclosed for you to report on attendance at the Grayling meeting. Stretch your brain and come up with something different and exciting.

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MICHIGAN TURFGRASS CONFERENCE

The 58th Annual Michigan Turfgrass Conference was held Jan. 18 - 20th, with 4 basic schools on Monday and 4 basic schools on Wed. afternoon. All these classes were filled indicating the desire for continuing education in this industry. At Michigan State, turfgras continues to set the pace for other industries to follow. Our attendance for both pre-registered attendance and those present exceeded any other conference that has been held. Almost one thousand persons attended this Conference. Our out of state speakers had very important messages based on current information. They were Dr. Robert Shearman, University of Nebraska (potash and stress, rooting, herbicides); Dr. Peter Dernoeden, University of Maryland (growth regulators, diseases); Dr. Richard Cooper, University of Mass. (rooting, pesticides concerns); Dr. James Watson, Toro Manufacturing; Dr. Dan Bowman, University of California-Davis (nitrogen use, soils); Ms. Kathy Copley, Grounds Maintenance, among others.

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