



Turf Times



The newsletter from the Northern Michigan Turf Managers Association

BI-Monthly Update November/December Volume 28, No. 5

[1999]

President's Message

First and foremost, Brian Holmes deserves a huge thank you for the amount of time and energy he has put into this association. His dedication is matched by very few. His knowledge and experience will be sorely missed on the Board.

The new officers of the NMTMA board are Steve Hammon from Traverse City Golf and Country Club, who will serve as Vice-president. Karen O'Dell from Black Bear Golf Course has done an outstanding job as Sec-

retary in the past (we resigned her for a multi-year contract), Dan Hunt from Treetops will continue to head the finance department, acting as Treasurer. Tom Reed Sr. from Tri-Turf is serving as Executive Secretary. Rounding out the Board are Jim Olli from Grandview G.C., Jim Tollefson from A-ga-ming G.C., Kevin Henley from the Natural at Beaver Creek Resort, Kim Olson from Turfgrass Inc. and Mike Allison from Spartan Distributors. I would like to welcome

the newly elected Board members Scott Pulaski from Treetops and Craig Hoffman from The Rock at Woodmoor Resort. We all look forward to maximizing the association's potential goals during our term.

As we approach the new millennium, it's a scary thought that I've been chosen to lead this organization. That could mean two things: either it's the end of the world as we know it or a unique experience for the NMTMA for awhile.

Enclosed in the

newsletter is the annual report for your review. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact a Board member.

Thank-you for the opportunity to sit in the big chair and I look forward to continuing the standards set forth by our preceding Boards.

Daniel J. Bissonette
Golf Course Superintendent
Walloon Lake Country Club

MDA RUP Y2K: Michigan Department of Agriculture Has Your (New) Number!

You've got to feel mixed emotions about the Michigan Department of Agriculture's (MDA) "Important Notice" about "New Applicator Credentials" sent out in September. Seems

MDA's use of pesticide applicators' *social security numbers* as the Restricted-Use Pesticide (RUP) certification numbers is *prohibited by law!* Now MDA has to go back to the old "computer as-

signed nine digit number" system, used before the switch to SS numbers a few years back.

Seems *another* state agency prohibits the display of Social Security numbers on a

license's occupational license. The Regulated Occupational Support Enforcement Act (236) of 1996 says "can't do it," so MDA must reissue new numbers and new cards for all the

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Is golf a traditional game or is it going to the dogs???

Tra-di-tion 1: an inherited, established, or customary pattern of thought, action, or behavior (as in religious practice or social custom)

2 : the handing down of information, beliefs, and customs by word or mouth or by example from one generation to another without written instruction

3 : cultural continuity in social attitudes and instruction 4: characteristic manner, method, or style

On my "customary pattern" home from Walloon Lake Country Club October 29th, another traditionally beautiful day in Northern Michigan, I had observed a group of golfers on a green at a golf course in our area. The only thing odd about this was the fact that one guy had a putter in one hand and a dog leash in the other. My assumption was incorrect that the k-9 was brought along to "retrieve" the Titleist from the cup as I observed the dog clawing his way back off the green while his owner tended the flagstick.

It then occurred to me this group was playing as a five-some plus the added four legged furball. I only hoped this group would finish in the four hours they were given at the start of the round or the pace-of-play police would surely arrive to arrest them.

You can bet that only one out of five in the group fixed their ballmark to insure the next four golfers had an extra ballmark to repair plus their own. Who made this idea up? If everyone fixed their own and we wouldn't have the "somebody else will get it" theory.

The golf cart parked on the collar is a time honored tradition I feel every golfing parent should teach their children. I mean, how else are we going to educate them that this is a game of speed. The one golfer didn't seem to mind hitting a flop shot over the Clubcar until the dog barked during his backswing.

Speaking of barking... since when has it been a custom to verbally abuse someone during a golf tourna-

ment? My friends can heckle me and vise-versa, but we're only playing for pride and some change not some corporate sponsored \$1,000,000 championship. Then and only then would I accept any negative consultation from a stranger. By the way has golfing become part of the WWF circuit??? I'm waiting for Colin Montgomerie and his Posse' to give the "Suck It" maneuver.

With the change in society's attitudes and expectations, the practice of leaving the brain at home has become commonplace. One way of influencing some of these less than accepted flaws is to write down rules and common maintenance practices and post them on the steering wheel of golf carts. That's a super idea!!! Maybe it could be made in Braille to cover the people who actually read those things. I've even bought more trash cans... never mind, we won't go there.

It seems traditional things have changed a little from what I was taught

growing up. In fact, it has become tradition to change things even if they don't need changing. Well change is here to stay and maybe my acceptance level for these shortcomings has to change with the times. I know the fall season is changing to winter and lots of snow will have all northern Michigan courses looking the same. I'm certain somebody will say why does our golf course have yellow snow and the course down the road look so white??? Could it be, you're the fire hydrant?

Anyhow, the only reasons I could come up with as to why Fido was on the green were either the man needed the leader dog to read his putts or the superintendent wanted to apply a little more organic fertilizer to the short grass.

This satirical story is fictional and for your reading enjoyment only.

*Daniel J. Bissonette
Golf Course Superintendent
Walloon Lake Country Club*



Your 1999 N.M.T.M.A. Distinguished Service Award winner is



The Northern Michigan Turf Managers Association is proud to present this years *Distinguished Service Award* to Tom Reed, Sr. from Tri Turf Inc. Tom became a member of the Northern Michigan Turf Managers Association in 1973. For

the past 23 years he has served on the Board of Directors and has been the membership chairman since 1984. In 1986 Tom decided he would take the position of the Board's Executive Secretary and continues to hold that position. Tom has been an

active member of the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation and the Golf Course Superintendent's Association since 1984 as well as an early member of the MTF Founders Society. Tom has been married to his wife Nancy for 43 years, has seven

children and 6 grand children. Please join us in the Michigan Hospitality room at the New Orleans Marriott on Thursday February 17 to congratulate him and his wife Nancy.

Steve Hammon

2000 NMTMA Committees

Program & Golf: Jim Olli & Kim Olson
 Member Scholarship: Jim Tollefson
 By-Laws/Ethics: Scott Pulaski
 Education: Kevin Henley, Craig Hoffman
 N.M.T.M.A. Fundraiser: Dan Bissonette
 Picnic: Kim Olson
 Publications: Scott Pulaski

Student Scholarship: Jim Tollefson
 Membership: Karen O'Dell
 Finance: Dan Hunt,
 MTF Fundraiser: Steve Hammon
 Environmental: Steve Hammon
 M.T.F./G.C.S.A.A. Liaison: Karen O'Dell

If you are interested in getting involved with NMTMA, please contact any of these people. All the committees would be happy to have you help out.

For Sale:

1993 Jacobson LF100 Fairway Mower, 4wd, 2259 hours,
 60% reel life, Heavy Duty rear rollers, excellent condition.
 \$5,000.00 or best offer.
 Mistwood Golf Course

1998 Cushman TD 2000, 5th wheel topdresser.
 Brand new only used one time. \$6,000.00
 Mistwood Golf Course

Contact Scott Adams for additional information: (231) 275-5999

Eagle Glen Golf Course Joins Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System

FARWELL, MI- Eagle Glen Golf Course has received certification in Environmental Planning from the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary (ACSS), an international program designed to help landowners preserve and enhance the environmental quality of their property.

The ACSS provides and advisory service to help golf courses develop effective conservation and wildlife enhancement programs. This worldwide effort is coordinated by Audubon International and the Golf Program is sponsored by the United States

Golf Association.

"The open space of a golf course is utilized not only by golfers, but is habitat for a variety of wildlife species." Explained Joellen Zeh, Staff Ecologist for Audubon International. "We welcome Eagle Glen Golf Course's commitment to the environment and to managing the golf course with wildlife in mind."

By joining and participating in the ACSS, Eagle Glen Golf Course will be involved in projects that enhance habitat for wildlife on the golf course and preserve natural resources for the benefit of the local community.

These projects may include: placing nesting boxes for cavity-nesting birds such as bluebirds and swallows, utilizing integrated pest management techniques, conserving water, and maintaining food and cover for wildlife.

"The Cooperative Sanctuary System benefits both people and wildlife," said Zeh. "It's a great way for golf courses and environmental organizations to work together to become better stewards of land and natural resources."

George Shephard, Eagle Glen Course Superintendent, explains; Certification

in the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program is designed to recognize and support golf courses that have worked to ensure a high degree of environmental quality for both people and wildlife on the golf course. The rewards of an environmentally sensitive golf course not only benefit the course, but extend to the larger community, in which the property is located. All of us involved with Eagle Glen are proud of this achievement, and are looking forward to working hand in hand with Audubon International in reaching all of our environmental re-

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current certified pesticide applicators in Michigan. Yikes!

Applicators with credentials expiring December 31, 1999, will first see their new numbers on their renewal application. Those certified applicators whose credentials expire December 31, 2000

and later, will be receiving their new cards-with new numbers-also by mail this month. Either the "old" SS number or the new nine-digit number can be used to purchase Restricted-Use Pesticides through December 31, 1999.

Beginning January 1, 2000, new certification

numbers will be required to purchase Restricted-Use-Pesticides.

NMTMA Scholarship Winner

Congratulations to Abigail Jannazzo for being awarded the NMTMA Member Scholarship.

1999

N.M.T.M.A.

ANNUAL REPORT

SUBMITTED BY YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT
VICE-PRESIDENT
SECRETARY/TREASURER
RECORDING SECRETARY
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
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Dan Hunt
Karen O'Dell
Tom Reed, Sr.
Jim Tollefson, CGCS
Paul Holmes, CGCS
Mike Allison
Kevin Henley
Jim Olli, CGCS
Steve Hammon
Kimberly Olson

10-5-99

1999 N.M.T.M.A. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Program and Golf – Jim Olli

May: The May meeting was the first ever joint meeting between the N.M.T.M.A. and the Western Michigan GCSA. It was well attended and held at the St. Ives Golf Course in Stanwood. Alex Greenacre was the host superintendent. The speakers were Kathy Antaya, CGCS and Gordy LaFontaine. They updated those attending on current Michigan Turfgrass Foundation activities.

August: The August meeting was held at Lakes of the North G. C. near Mancelona. Over 50 people enjoyed the day with Scott Brown hosting the event. Jim Hammon, rules official with the Michigan PGA gave an educational and entertaining mini-seminar on The Rules of Golf.

Participation was good at this years events. Please feel free to contact a Board member if you have ideas or opinions for future events. Future meeting sites are always needed, so please consider hosting a meeting.

Scholarship – Jim Tollefson, CGCS & Eric Denoyer

Jim Tollefson gave a presentation and handed out forms at M.S.U. in December 1998 for the college student scholarship. Applications were received and interviews conducted on campus in January 1999. Interview committee consisted of Jim Tollefson and Eric Denoyer. This year's winner was Tracy Edwards. His letter of appreciation was included in our spring newsletter.

This year we received 6 applications for the N.M.T.M.A. member's scholarship. This year's topic was "Golf Courses Positive Impact on the Environment". The judging committee was divided between Journalism and English teachers from high school teachers in northwest Michigan. This year's winner was Abigail Jannazzo from Traverse City. She is the daughter of Eugene Jannazzo and is an entering freshman at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. Her interests include the following: National Honor Society, Marching Band, Symphony Band, Special Olympics volunteer, Ballet, and Pep Band.

N.M.T.M.A. Fundraiser – Dan Bissonette

The September 14th Fundraiser went very well. We had 104 participants. Income received was \$9,780.00; Expenses were \$5,843.78 for a total profit of \$3,936.22. Our appreciation to Indian River Golf Club for hosting our event.

Membership – Steve Hammon & Tom Reed, Sr.

Following are the number of members we have had in the past two years and how our current membership stands as of 9-27-99.

<u>CLASS</u>	<u>NUMBER OF MEMBERS</u>		
	<u>1997</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1999</u>
A	140	132	137
B	50	46	48
C	3	16	25
D	26	18	14
E	10	12	10
F	24	21	21
G	81	74	77
H	13	16	16
M	0	5	2
TOTAL	347	340	350

This year we have had 20 people not renew their membership. (10 golf related and 10 vendors). This year we also updated our membership application form with a cleaner, fresh look.

Nominating Committee – Brian Holmes

The nominating committee submits the following names for the 1999 Annual Meeting:

Superintendent

DAN BISSONETTE – Walloon Lake C. C.
CRAIG HOFFMAN – The Rock
PAUL HOLMES – Gaylord C. C.
SCOTT PULASKI – Treetops

Sustaining Member

MIKE ALLISON – Spartan Distributors
BOB DOEZEMA – Valley Turf, Inc.

Environmental – Steve Hammon & Tom Reed, Sr.

On March 19, 1999 the N.M.T.M.A. and Treetops Sylvan Resort were glad to co-host the Michigan Turfgrass Environmental Stewardship Program Workshop. Superintendents from all over the state of Michigan attended this all day workshop. Superintendents listened to state officials explain specific rules and regulations that directly affected their golf course. Each attendee was given a step by step manual on how to become a member of the MTESP.

During the Spring N.M.T.M.A. Mini-Conference we had Paul Emling, Superintendent at Arcadia Bluffs, give us a presentation on what *really* happened before, during and after their major bluff corrosion situation. Paul did an excellent job documenting the events that took place before and after the washout with video, still photos and aerial pictures of the property and surrounding area.

This past August, Greg Lyman, the Environmental Specialist from Michigan State University was involved with a Pollution Prevention Conference in Traverse City. Greg organized a field trip for 40 conference members to take a tour of the golf courses at the Grand Traverse Resort. Before the tour, Jon Maddern gave a presentation about the Michigan Turfgrass Environmental Stewardship Program. Then the conference guests were greeted by local Superintendents; Jon Maddern, Jim Bluck, Paul Galligan, Kathy Antaya and Karen O'Dell at the resort. The guests were educated on such topics as buffer zones, pest identification, fertilizer types and rates, IPM, disease identification, maintenance equipment and comparing turf management to cherry and corn management. The course tour and education was a great success.

Publications – Scott Pulaski

5 issues of the Turf Times newsletter were sent out to our members. As always, any input from the membership regarding topics/suggestions/comments/articles is much appreciated. This year the Turf Times were also put together on a home computer and e-mailed to Kay to be printed. Doing this saved the organization around \$100 per issue.

A new printing company was used for the membership directory, which resulted in a substantial printing savings. We plan to use this company again this year. Remember, the directory is only as accurate as the information that we have on file for you. As you receive your membership renewal, please take a few moments to make any corrections on your invoice. The advertising portion of the directory remained the same.



Northern Michigan Turf Managers Association
P.O. Box 80086 • Lansing, Michigan 48908



TITLE OF POSITION

Golf Course Superintendent

COURSE NAME

Rogers City Country Club

Rogers City, MI 49779

COURSE OPERATION:

18 hole public golf course. Back 9 holes opened July 2nd, 1999. Penncross greens on new 9.

Bent and poa greens on front 9 holes. Bluegrass tees and fairways throughout. New Toro electric irrigation on new 9.

REQUIREMENTS:

Must have excellent communication skills to direct and supervise all maintenance practices.

Good knowledge to maintain and repair Toro equipment along with Toro LTC irrigation.

Must have ability to prepare an annual cost of operation budget. Pesticide license a must.

ANNUAL SALARY:

\$22,000 - 25,000 for 36 weeks.

BENEFITS:

Hospitalization, life insurance, retirement and local and national professional dues.

SEND RESUME TO:

Rogers City Country Club

P. O. Box 186, Rogers City, MI 49779

800-434-2187 - Attention Phil

APPLICATION DEADLINE:

ASAP until March 1, 2000

The NMTMA appreciates the support from the following businesses...

•IRRIGATION•

Thellen Turf Irrigation, Inc.
Golf Course Installations
(517) 773-3409

Century Rain Aid
Legacy Golf
(800) 347-4272

Valley Turf Inc.
Your Reel Support in Northern Michigan
(616) 369-3482 • (800) 688-3605

•SOD, SOIL, & CONSTRUCTION•

Beck Sod Farm
George or Lois Beck
(800) 968-2325 / Fax (517) 864-3055

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Matt Heiss
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•ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN & CONSULTING•

C. J. Colein & Associates, Inc.
Carol Colein
(248) 656-6805

...and we encourage you to support them

Northern Michigan Turf Managers Association
P.O. Box 80086
Lansing, Michigan 48908



NMTMA Executive Committee

Dan Bissonette	President
Steve Hammon	Vice President
Dan Hunt	Treasurer
Tom Reed	Executive Secretary
Karen O'Dell	Recording Secretary

Dr. James B. Beard
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