



Turf Times



The newsletter from the Northern Michigan Turf Managers Association
BI-Monthly Update March/April Volume 30, No. 1 [2003]

President's Message

Well here we go again, the beginning of a new season. The snow is melting and the employees are calling, checking on their spring schedules. My President's Message is over due again and Scott is getting impatient to get the Turf Times out.... he's been ready for a month!

The mini conference is loaded with lots of great topics and speakers. For those of you who haven't made plans to come, do so now, as this will be a great one to attend. Craig Hoffman and Doug Kendzorski have really out done themselves this year.

Congratulations to Jon Maddern on his election win as secretary/treasurer of the GCSAA. For all of us who campaigned heavily for you in New Orleans last year, this ones for you Jon.

The Professional Development Initiative (PDI) passed by 75% vote in Dallas. The recommended bylaw changes will take affect as of July 1, 2003. Check out the GCSAA Web site for more information - gcsaa.org.

There was a great turn out at Marsh Ridge for the GCSAA/Textron sponsored seminars. It shows the involve-

ment that the Northern Michigan Superintendents have for continuing their education.

The ski-doo has logged over 3,000 miles this year, with no break downs. It may have one more ride in it before I put it away for the year. Any takers, give me a call! I promise to stay on the trail.

I hope the winter has treated you well, and your spring and summer are even better.

Green side up,
Dan Bissonette

New NMTMA Event Cancellation Policy

If you are not able to attend an NMTMA event that you have pre-registered for, you must contact the event facility no later than two hours before the scheduled event is to begin. You **WILL** be billed the **FULL** registration price upon failure to cancel your reservation. This event will be posted on all NMTMA event flyers, membership directory and newsletters.

Program and Golf Committee,

Mike Normand , Jim Bluck , Steve Hammon



Many Thanks Goes out to N.M.T.M.A.

Dear Steve and fellow Northern Michigan Turf Managers Association members:

Today is November 20 and I finally got to see the TV tape on the Tribute to Tuck. I think I've been delaying looking at it and now I know the reason.

This is so beautifully expressed by all and I am overtaken with emotion. I am so happy he touched the lives of so many young men and hope it'll be a stimulant for all of you to follow in his footprints.

I am going to write to Tom Reed and Mike Morris, but please will you say thanks to all for the expression of love and admiration.

Really, I have no words to express my complete feelings for all of you. You are the greatest and I send my best wishes for many successful years of happiness and good health in your future.

God bless all of you and so do I,

Becky Tate



Dear Northern Michigan Turf Managers Association:

I would like to thank the association for its tremendous generosity. I was presented with the N.M.T.M.A. Scholarship at the 2001 MTF Conference. I am very grateful to receive and accept this scholarship. I am anxious to represent and give back to the NMTMA for the remainder of the year and in the future. Thank you again!

Sincerely,

Marc Kull

To Dan and all my great friends from the N.M.T.M.A.!!

You will never know how very much this plaque and presentation has meant to me! I only wish I could have done more for all of you.

Keep up the Good Work. You're the finest group of professionals I have ever known. Thanks from the bottom of my heart! God Bless you all!

Jim & Pat Inman

NMTMA Golf & Events Schedule for 2001

April 2, 2001 - NMTMA Mini Conference – Grayling Holiday Inn

June 19, 2001 – MTF Fund-raiser – Treetops Resort, The Tradition

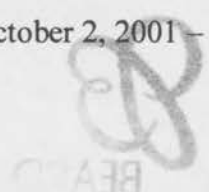
July 22, 2001 – NMTMA Annual Picnic – Beaver Creek Resort

August 14, 2001 – The Rock – Drummond Island

August 22, 2001 – Michigan State University, Field Day

September 13, 2001 – NMTMA Fundraiser, Black Lake Golf Course

October 2, 2001 – Tuck Tate Championship, Michaywe' Hills, The Pines



Turfgrass Breeding and Genetics

A Vision for Success

Michigan State University has, in place, the faculty and staff to make significant progress in the area of turfgrass breeding and genetics. Much of this was made possible due to the substantial commitment of GREEN funds to hire Dr. Suleiman Bughrara as the new turfgrass breeder. Dr. Bughrara brings with him a number of research projects of interest to the turfgrass industry in Michigan. Previous research conducted by Dr. Joe Vargas in identifying disease-resistant germplasm and the genetic profile of various diseases provides a basis for breeding and genetics in turfgrass disease resistance. Disease resistance has been identified by the turfgrass industry as a major research priority. Dr. Mariam Sticklen has been active in genetic transformation of turfgrasses. The industry and MSU have partnered to purchase a microarray to facilitate progress in molecular genetics in turf and to allow Dr. Sticklen to fulfill a significant grant by the United States Golf Association (USGA).

In addition to these faculty working in turf, there are a number of faculty that are currently conducting breeding and genetics work on a more basic level. This research is of potential value to many commodity areas. The turfgrass industry supports the interaction of turf faculty with basic plant science and genetic researchers. The new turfgrass physiology position complements the breeding and genetics program in turf and facilitates this interaction between applied and basic research.

While these developments are occurring at MSU, the turf industry, through the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation, is also continuing to evolve. There is recognized excitement throughout the industry as we contemplate the potential benefits that turfgrass breeding and genetics will bring to our livelihood. As part of this excitement, we see a renewed commitment to fund-raising as we recognize the increased financial needs of this research. What we need as an industry and foundation to make fund-raising effective is a cause. We believe turfgrass breeding and genetics is this cause with the initial goal of releasing a dollar spot resistant cultivar in three to five years.

This initial goal is substantial on its own, but it is important that we identify a broader vision for the continued support of the turfgrass program as a whole. This will ensure long-term success.

The formation of a Center for Turfgrass Breeding and Genetics provides this broader vision. The Center would take a new breeding program and meld it with the past genetics work done at MSU. It also provides an umbrella for future projects in turfgrass breeding and genetics to succeed. Basic research now being performed in plant science would have a ready outlet for application. And finally, this centralized organization identifies a clear vision and goal for fund-raising activities by the MTF. Instead of fragmentation we now have a well-defined focus.

This vision statement was prepared for a grant request to GREEN in January, 2001. In addition to this overall vision, a specific short-term goal was identified to develop a disease-resistant creeping bentgrass. The MTF Board of Directors and the MSU turf faculty is pleased to announce that this project will be funded by MSU for a two-year period for \$98,510.00.

MTF Research Committee Update

Dear Members,

Here's an update as to what the MTF Research Committee has been doing. When we organized the committee it was our goal to seek out research needs, develop research priorities, improve overall communication between the MTF members and the MTF Board of Directors, recommend improvements and changes to the grant request process and explore and recommend additional funding opportunities.

So where are we one year later?

Based on the survey and lots of discussions with people in the industry we will be asking for research in the following areas: moss control, ant control and removal of grassy weeds from desirable turf.

Research priorities that have already been identified and are being further researched are:

Maximizing Athletic Turf Quality with Limited Inputs	Jr. Crum and Lisa Lundberg
Golf Course Buffer Strip Project	Greg Lyman
Long Term Fate of Nitrogen in Turfgrass	Kevin Frank
Impact of Environmental Factors and Cultural Practices On Green Speed Consistency	Kevin Frank
Sloping Green Research	Kevin Frank
Sports Turf Management Research (general)	Trey Rogers
Biocontrol of Japanese Beetle	Dave Smitley
Addressing Widespread Damage from European Chafer	Dave Smitley
Microarray and Bentgrass Gene Library	Mariam Sticklen
Center for Turfgrass Breeding and Genetics	Joe Vargas and Suleiman Bughrara

"Labor Issues" was also identified as a research priority.

Communication has improved by the fact that we had a great response to the survey and since then, that message has been conveyed to the professors at Michigan State. Right now you are reading this letter. Tom Smith, MTF President, has also included an article in this newsletter. But, we still need more involvement from the membership. Don't worry we won't make you be on the committee just because you made a suggestion. Any input from the membership is always welcomed.

New Research Grant Guidelines were identified, proposed and approved by the board. Based on the "Mission Statement" of the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation, awarding of research grants is an important

(Continued from page 4)

function of the Foundation.

Included in the New Research Grant Guidelines are revised Research Criteria, Protocol for Grant Requests, Renewal of Grants and Support Funding. Another update will include the newly approved guidelines.

As far as additional funding opportunities, the MTF has partnered with the Farm Bureau, MDEQ Great Lakes, USGA, GCSAA, The O.J. Noer Foundation, and GREEN as well as other various sources. The MTF is contributing \$75,560.00 for the research listed above while these organizations are supporting us with an additional \$578,181. The MTF has leveraged our donations by a huge amount! That's why, if it sounds like the MTF is asking for money, they are. These partnerships that have been created generate larger amounts of research dollars that are being used for turfgrass science. Every dollar we contribute can go so much farther now.

So with that you have the current update from the MTF Research Committee.

Kim Olson

The 2000 NMTMA Distinguished Award goes to....

The Northern Michigan Turf Manager's Distinguished Service Award winner for 2000 is Jim Inman.

Born April 17, 1929 Jim attended M.S.U. in 1947 - 48 and received a 2 year degree in Farm Management. After some years in farm management, he owned and operated the "Mower Shop" in Farmington for 18 years. On a handshake with Hal Voglar Jim organized, set up the shop and sold equipment at Miller West for 10 years. He then went to work at West Utica Tractor for 2 years as an Ariens distributor.

In 1983 John Read hired Jim as a commercial equipment salesman for Spartan Distributors where Jim worked full time until 1995, when Jim semi-retired. He worked part-time in the shop until 1999, when he fully retired. During this time he was a member of the Northern and Western Turf Managers Associations. Jim lives in the Baldwin area with his lovely wife Pat, and is visited there often by their four children, 8 grand children and 4 great grand children. His time now is devoted to his family, and Pat's never ending list of "honey dos". Jim is also very involved in their church and all of its activities.

While Jim's professional and personal accomplishments are very impressive, he will be remembered in the turf industry mostly in an area that transcends brand or distributor affiliation. And that would be his love of the industry and the people that work within it.

Jim, a gentleman, a Christian, a counselor, advisor with a warm smile and infectious laugh always had time to talk. His long and tireless hours, his genuine personality, his knowledge of turf and turf equipment, his sound judgment and advice and honesty have made a positive permanent impression on all of us that have had the pleasure of knowing or working with him. Bless You, Jim Inman, and thank you for your contribution to the turf industry with your time, knowledge, friendship and as an example of a Christian and gentleman.



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In an effort to install a little creativity and addition to our Turf Times, we are awarding \$250.00 and a plaque to the member of the NMTMA who submits an article to be judged and published in the Turf Times. Once the article is submitted, it will be reviewed by a committee to be put into the final judging, done by the members at the annual board meeting.

Please submit articles to:

Scott Pulaski
4787 Winnie Hill Rd.
Gaylord, MI 49735
Fax: 517-983-2908
E-mail: scottp@freeway.net

Editor's Note

- ◆ Membership Directories are on their way. Look for them in your mailbox in three weeks. If you would happen to notice any mistakes please do not hesitate to contact me and I will be sure to print the correction in the next issue of the "Turf Times".
- ◆ Here are the following dates of publication for the Turf Times. If you would like to have anything published it is greatly appreciated that you get the information to be by:
May/June issue: By May 18th
July/August issue: By July 20th
September/October issue: By September 21st
November/December issue: By November 16th
- ◆ Please note the "Cancellation Policy" that has taken effect for the 2001 season.



Steve Hammon (left) and Dan Bissonette (right) take a break at the local snowmobile fix it shop on Drummond Island to get Dan's sled fixed from another Skidoo breakdown.

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\$	For Sale					\$
\$	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ F-10 for sale 500.00 Great shape. ◆ 2 - 50hp pumps and a 10hp pump with starters, a clay valve and numerous sureflo fittings including foot valves. All for \$2500.00 					\$
\$	Contact Paul Holmes at 231-546-3233 or e-mail at: pholmes@freeway.net					\$
\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$

\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
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\$	1989 Yamaha Utility cart, two-cycle engine, she can be a real screamer, \$650.00 call Steve Hammon, 231-947-0487						\$
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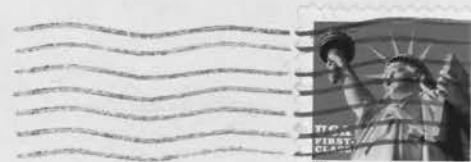
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Steve Hammon	Vice President
Dan Hunt	Treasurer
Tom Reed	Executive Secretary
Doug Kendziorski	Recording Secretary

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