



Turf Times



The newsletter from the Northern Michigan Turf Managers Association

Bi-Monthly Update March/April Volume 31, No. 1

President's Message

It's hard to believe that just over six months have passed since tragedy struck our nation. Let us pause to remember those who were lost or injured. We praise the overwhelming support of volunteers who came to the rescue and the military forces who continue to fight for our freedom. For these fellow Americans, we must be eternally be grateful.

But now I'm back! Full of vengeance and cabin fever emotion. Ready to pour out my soul. I don't even know if I'm ready to listen to me.

First of all, I've heard some rumblings about the cost of the MTF Fundraiser going up may detour some from attending. Well, guess what. It's a "fundraiser". It's not a "see if we can play this fine course for cheap and eat some fabulous food free and win valuable prizes what's in it for me" fundraiser. Again, It's a Michigan Turfgrass Foundation Fundraiser. Money raised for research, to help keep our jobs that much more secure in this otherwise insecure world. So quit whining about the cost. Besides, not a single article was written last year for the golden pen award for a cool 2.5 Benjamin's. Yeah, that's right no takers. Maybe this year???

Speaking of attendance. The two GCSAA sponsored meetings did not have that many people signed up. They have been well attended in the past. Speaker cancellation, lack of sign-ups, or subject matter. Who knows? It'll be better next year. Move on.

Did I say attendance? Jimmy Baggett, where are you? The Vale can get along without you for a day. Come to a meeting. Mark Skop, see you at the mini-conference. Bring a friend. Dave Little, are you ever going to leave Tawas to come to a meeting? John Holberton, I hope the only meeting you get to won't be your own. Grab some pasties and come on down. The beer is cold in the Lower too. Hey and don't forget to bring John from Pickford with you. He's got some of my money from March Madness. Brian Holmes, just because you retired from president doesn't pardon you from meeting attendance. Who do you think you are? Bill Clinton. We're not swallowing that excuse. Tom Brogger, even Tom Izzo has to attend some functions he doesn't like. Dave Longfield, we will save you a front row seat. Dave Pretznaw, now that the bypass is in, you can get to a meeting faster than ever before. Bob Steinhurst, Mark Wildeman, Mike Morris, it would be nice to see you. Former board members don't get off that easy. John Mastenbrook, hire another guy so you can leave for a half a day. West Side Paul Emling, you have enough staff there you can leave for a week and no one would notice you were gone. Ok I have abused enough people and started a lot of bridges on fire, so I will just say it would be nice to see you. And to the rest of you, I have more slams for you in the future.

Seriously, we have some great meetings coming up. The board has been working very hard bringing you some quality speakers and venues. So it would be very unfortunate if you did not attend, as you would be missing out.

We are proud to announce the NMTMA has launched our new web site at www.nmtma.org It is a work in progress and can be modified. We look forward to your ideas and opinions. Please log on and have fun. It's your site.

Green side up,
Daniel J. Bissonette



2001 Distinguished Service Award Winner

This years-Distinguished Service Award winner is the late Mr. Ed Karcheski. Ed died on April 1, 2001. Ed was the Golf Professional at Traverse City Golf & Country Club for 32 years from 1946-1978 as well as the Golf Course Superintendent for 20 of those 32 years.

Ed had one sister, Margaret and one brother Robert. He and his wife Marguerite had six children, Kathleen, Nancy, Robert, James, Marilyn, and David as well as 15 wonderful grandchildren. He served his country in the United States Army in Europe during World War II.

Ed started his golf career caddying at the age of 10 for 25 cents an hour. In 1933, at the age of 19 he became the Assistant Golf Professional at Cascade Hills Country Club in Grand Rapids. Ed was a great player. He finished fifth in a field of 250 players in the European Theater Open after the war. He holds many course records. Ed scored a 58 at Leland Country Club, 62 at Silver Lake Country Club, 62 at Lincoln in Grand Rapids, 63 at Traverse City Golf & Country Club and a 64 at Cascade Hills. Ed Karcheski also won the Northern Michigan Open six straight years for a total of seven times.

In the late 1960's at Michigan State University, Dr. James Beard decided to compare turfgrass management research on the heavier soils in down state Michigan with turfgrass management on the sandier soils of Northern Michigan. Dr. Beard's research in the north began by establishing plots at the Traverse City Golf & Country Club. Ed worked closely with Dr. Beard on all aspects of the research. As Dr. Beard began to accumulate results from those test plots, he and Ed organized a yearly field day at Traverse City Golf Country Club. This field day was in addition to the annual event held at Michigan State University. News of the Northern Michigan research and field day spread rapidly and generated a great deal of interest among Northern Michigan Superintendents and golf course owners.

Ed Karcheski, Frank Heminger, Mike Thomas and Tuck Tate met in August of 1971 at Interlochen Golf Course to establish the Northern Michigan Turf Managers Association. Ed Karcheski was elected our first association president.

Our 2001 Distinguished Service Award will be presented to one of Ed's children during our NMTMA Mini-conference in Grayling on April 1st. Please join us as we honor one of our founding members, the late Mr. Ed Karcheski.

Member's Scholarship Application Forms Available

NMTMA member's scholarship application information will be available at the Mini-Conference in Grayling at the Holiday Inn on April 1, 2002 or can be obtained by contacting Scott Pulaski at scottp@freeway.net. The purpose of this scholarship is to offer financial aid to children of NMTMA members and also as an additional benefit to our members. Eligibility requirements are as follows: One or more of the applicant's parents or step-parents must currently be an active member of the NMTMA for at least the past two years, the student must be studying or planning to study in a field **unrelated** to golf course management and there is a limit of one scholarship per level of education (e.g. undergraduate, graduate, and doctorate). Criteria for selection is as follows: The student must be enrolled full-time at an accredited institution or higher learning or, in the case of a high school senior, must be accepted at such an institution for the next academic year and the student must complete an essay. The award will be in the amount of \$1,000 and will be awarded at the September meeting.

\$\$ For Sale \$\$

2 Wittek ball dispensers for driving range.
\$1200.00 each
Range balls. \$1.50 per dozen. 1500 dozen
available.

For more details contact:
Mark Wildeman, CGCS
(989) 732-6711 ext. 2810 or
Scott Pulaski @ 989-732-6711 Ext. 2809

Jacobsen PGM 22 Greens Mowers
\$2,500.00 each or all 3 for \$7,000.00.
Smithco Mow-N-Go trailers included
231-898-2450 or 231-898-2812

Attention Lawncare Professionals

In an effort to educate more turf managers of the NMTMA association, we are promoting our association to all lawn care professionals in the industry. If you know of anyone involved with the lawn care industry and would like to join the NMTMA, please have them contact Kay Patrick at 517-327-5474 for an application or they can fill out an application on the NMTMA website at www.nmtma.org in the "Contact" section.

It's a Boy

Congratulations to Steve & Sue Hammon on the birth of their son:

Luke Joseph Hammon
Born - March 19, 2002
21 inches
7#s, 12 oz

Condolences

Our condolences go out to John Read (Spartan Dist.) on the passing away of his father James Read.

2002 Student Scholarship Award Recipient

Congratulations to Aaron Buysens on being awarded the 2002 Student Scholarship. Aaron is currently attending Michigan State University in the 2-year program of Turfgrass Management. After receiving his degree he will return to Northern Michigan at Red Hawk Golf Club in Tawas, MI as the Assistant Superintendent to Superintendent Dave Little, CGCS. The association wishes him the best and we look forward to seeing him around at our meetings and outings throughout the year.

Schedule of Events 2002

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|---------------|--|
| April 1 | NMTMA Mini-Conference |
| May 21 | MTF Fundraiser - Arcadia Bluffs |
| August 13 | MSU Field Day, Lansing MI |
| August 20 | The Tribute |
| September 5 | NMTMA Fundraiser - Wild Bluff's |
| October 2 | Tuck Tate Championship - Kingsley Club |
| Jan. 22, 2003 | MTF Conference in Lansing |

Make plans to attend the:

Northern Michigan Turf Managers Association 2002 Mini Conference

To be held Monday, April 1, 2002 at the Grayling Holiday Inn

Registration 8:00 a.m. – Welcome 8:30 a.m.

Topics include the following:

- Kevin Frank MSU Green Speed Research at Crystal Downs
- Mike Morris, CGCS Crystal Downs C. C.
- Greg Lyman MSU Environmental Updates
- Ron Calhoun MSU Spartan Stadium
- Carrie Riordan GCSAA Government Relations
- Vicki Pontz-Teachout Michigan Department of Agriculture
- Congressman Bart Stupak
- Scott Pulaski N.M.T.M.A.
- Jodie Bissonette Gaslight Media
- Jon Maddern, CGCS Vice President GCSAA
- Ed Karcheski Distinguished Service Award
- James van Antwerp M.T.F.
- Gordon LaFontaine Executive Director M.T.F.
- Ron Calhoun M.S.U.

Recertification credits will be announced at the meeting

COST: \$35.00 which includes morning coffee and rolls as well as a buffet lunch in the dining room. Registration is at the door, make checks payable to: N.M.T.M.A.

Your 2001-2002 Board of Directors and Committees

President.....	Dan Bissonette
Vice President.....	Steve Hammon
Treasurer	Dan Hunt
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Executive Secretary	Tom Reed Sr.
Director.....	Craig Hoffman
Director.....	Scott Pulaski
Director.....	Mike Normand
Director.....	Steve Sump
Director.....	Jim Bluck
Director.....	Jim VanAntwerp
Director.....	Kim Olson

Committees:

Program & Golf:	Steve Hammon, Mike Normand, Jim Bluck
Student Scholarship:	Scott Pulaski, Dan Hunt
Members Scholarship:	Scott Pulaski, Dan Hunt
Membership:	Tom Reed, Dan Hunt
By Laws/Ethics:	Scott Pulaski
Finance:	Dan Hunt, Dan Bissonette, Steve Hammon
Education:	Craig Hoffman, Doug Kendziorski, Mike Normand
MTF Fundraiser:	Steve Hammon, Dan Bissonette, Jim VanAntwerp
NMTMA Fundraiser:	Dan Bissonette, Jim Bluck, Jim VanAntwerp
Environmental:	Craig Hoffman, Steve Hammon, Steve Sump
Publications/Web Site:	Scott Pulaski, Steve Hammon, Dan Bissonette

WWW.NMTMA.ORG

As of April 1, 2002 the Northern Michigan Turf Managers Association's website will be live for all members to view and enjoy. Over the winter months Dan Bissonette, Scott Pulaski and Steve Hammon have been working with Gaslight Media of Petoskey to get the website setup and all the problems worked out to ensure a smooth entrance by its members. We feel that this will be an important tool that will be useful for the members to use as a directory, look up schedule of events and link up with other important websites. A bulletin board will be available for "members only" to use for discussion forums, list equipment for sale and also to take surveys on matters that are effecting the industry. One survey that is currently being developed is a salary survey that only the members can take. All surveys will show current results of the information surveyed. Data information will be updated in a timely fashion to ensure that you are viewing the latest events and happening in Northern Michigan. The NMTMA board hopes that this will be a tool that each member can use to their benefit.

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

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...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, Sr.	Executive Secretary
Doug Kendziorski	Recording Secretary



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