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Michigan & Border Cities Golf Course Superintendents Association



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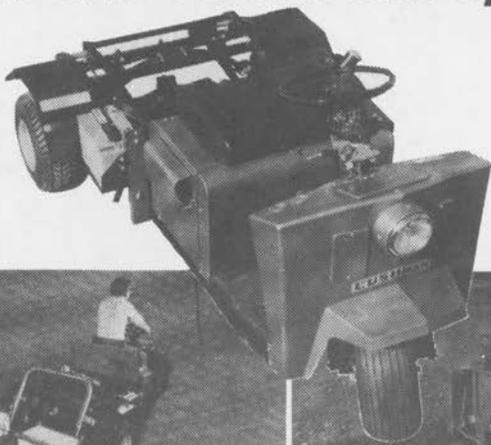
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President's Message

It is with a sense of pride and appreciation that I write my first president's message. I am most thankful to our association for their support and confidence in electing me President of the M&BCGCSA. Furthermore, I would also like to express my sincere thanks and gratitude to all those members who worked so hard at St. Louis on my behalf. My election to the Board of Directors of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America would not have been possible without this dedicated effort. A very special thanks is extended to Fritz McMullin and Bruce Wolfrom for the excellent job they did in organizing my campaign.

I would also like to express a sincere thanks to Immediate Past President, Clem Wolfrom, for the many years of service to our association. Clem has served on the board for the past 20 years and twice as President. During that time, his leadership and guidance has been responsible for many of the achievements of our association. Clem has always recognized the importance of the Superintendent to the game of golf and has represented our association with dignity and integrity throughout the industry. He has served well!

A sincere thank you is also extended to retiring Board Members George Prieskorn, Jay Delcamp, and Walt Trombley. Their contributions over the past few years are greatly appreciated and their talents will be

missed.

I spoke of pride in my opening sentence. By this I mean we should all be proud of our local association. I have never been associated with a more active group and one that has been more willing to help each other and their profession. Our support of turf research at Michigan State University, our support of the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation, and our support of local events cannot be matched throughout the nation. Our fund raising golf day is becoming the model for many other associations for such an event.

Our profession as well as the game of golf face many problems in the future. To a large degree, this is where our professional pride can prove to be most helpful. If we continue to work to support turf research and investigate ways and means to meet the challenges we face, we can have a tremendous impact upon our own destiny. You can be sure this Board of Directors will do all it can in providing programs and educational opportunities that will assist us in solving our future problems. However, to succeed we need the input and support of all members. Do not hesitate to offer any suggestions or help in any areas. By so doing you can make a great association even better.

James W. Timmerman, CGCSA
President
M&BCGCSA

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Problem Areas In Need Of Solutions

1. *Development of low cost, low maintenance cultural programs while maintaining a stress tolerant, functional turf.* The object is to maintain a moderate growth rate and color which will not require frequent mowing. The reduced nitrogen rates and mowing frequencies will reduce energy inputs necessary to maintain the turf. Alternative grass species not now in wide use need to be evaluated under low cost, low energy use maintenance systems. The use of growth inhibitors as a partial replacement for mowing is being pursued.

2. *Study of the mechanisms involved in stress tolerance.* In terms of long range needs, the ability to tolerate and survive heat, cold, drought, and related environmental stresses is best achieved through development of varieties possessing physiological tolerance. Currently these problems are minimized by high cost energy inputs of irrigation, fertility, and mowing to modify the external environment. Since this approach will be too costly in the future, research is needed concerning the mechanisms of stress injury and hardiness so that this information can be used in breeding stress tolerant grass varieties.

3. *Development through plant breeding of fine-leaved fescue varieties which possess low nitrogen and water requirements, a strong creeping habit, and Helminthosporium (leafspot) resistance.* The susceptibility of most low nitrogen requiring species and varieties to leafspot is very high. The result is severely reduced turfgrass quality and functionality during and following infection periods. Presently the fine-leaved fescue breeding program is nearly half way toward the goal of releasing the initial variety (or varieties) possessing these desired properties. It is the only fescue breeding program

in the U.S.

4. *Evaluation of traffic effects on intensively used turfs.* Species and cultivars presently utilized by the turfgrass industry must be evaluated for tolerance to intense traffic. Effects of cultural practices, such as fertilization (nitrogen rate, nutrient balance), watering, and mowing height, need to be determined as they affect wear tolerance of widely used grasses. The value of cultivation of established sods for relief of soil compaction caused by intensive use will be studied. Particular emphasis on these studies is needed for school athletic fields, recreational areas, and parks. The meadow fescue, developed at M.S.U., will be an important component in the studies.

5. *Development of pest management systems for turf.* The objective is to reduce costs and rates of pesticides needed for the control of diseases, nematodes, insects, and weeds. This involves the total management program. Included are the (a) standard cultural practices that affect susceptibility to these pests, (b) emphasis on forecasting the most effective timing of pesticide application, (c) evaluation of pesticides which could control more than one pest, and (d) use of resistant cultivars.

1980 Turfgrass Field Days

The 1980 Penn State Turfgrass Field Days will be held on August 6th and 7th. The Field Days will be held at the Joseph Valentine Turfgrass Research Center at the Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania. For further information contact: Dr. Joseph Duich, 21 Tyson Building, Department of Agronomy, University Park, Pennsylvania, 16802.

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Green Seminar - A HUGH Success

PICTURES ON PAGES 12 & 13

Saturday, March 9, 1980, was the date of our latest Seminar. The Michigan and Border Cities G.C.S.A. and The Golf Association of Michigan presented their joint efforts at the Detroit Golf Club.

Chairmen for the Seminar were Neik J. MacPhee and James Timmerman. The theme of the presentation was "Better Golf through better maintenance."

Some of the highlights were: the premiere showing of the USGA Green Section's new film "The Golfer and the Course" - an outstanding film explaining the reasons the golfer should do his share of golf course care.

Winter injury was discussed by Carl Schwartzkopf of the USGA and Chris Meyers, Superintendent of

Bloomfield Hills and Fritz McMullen, Superintendent of Forest Lake Country Club. They covered all aspects of winter damage, its causes and cures.

Living with *Poa annua* was presented by Roger Barton, Superintendent of Blythefield Country Club and Dr. Joe Vargas of Michigan State University. They felt that a concerted effort should be made to live with *Poa* instead of getting rid of it.

New ideas about "Sand Topdressing" were discussed by James Latham, Agronomist from the Milwaukee Sewage Commission, Gerald Faubel, Superintendent of Saginaw Country Club. They stressed the importance of selecting the proper sand and its application.

The subject of Energy and the Golf Course was covered by John Havens,



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Manager, Automotive Industry Sales, Mobile Oil Corporation. He suggested that we get serious about conservation.

"Course Maintenance and the Golfer" was presented by Dr. Paul Rieke of MSU. He explained why certain practices were necessary on the course to provide quality turf for the golfer.

Mike Edgerton, Superintendent of Meadowbrook Country Club and Tom Deaton, Golf Professional of Franklin Hills Country Club, explained how this is accomplished.

James Timmerman, Superintendent Orchard Lake Country Club told us how important syringing was to the survival of turf on hot days.

This had to be one of the best and well attended seminars in our history.

NEWS FLASH

The new Robert Hancock Turfgrass Research Facility at MSU is in need of many pieces of equipment. If your

course has equipment that is not being used and that you would like to donate, it would be greatly appreciated. If you have anything, please contact Dr. John Kaufmann:

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It is also possible that your club could get a tax deduction for your contribution.

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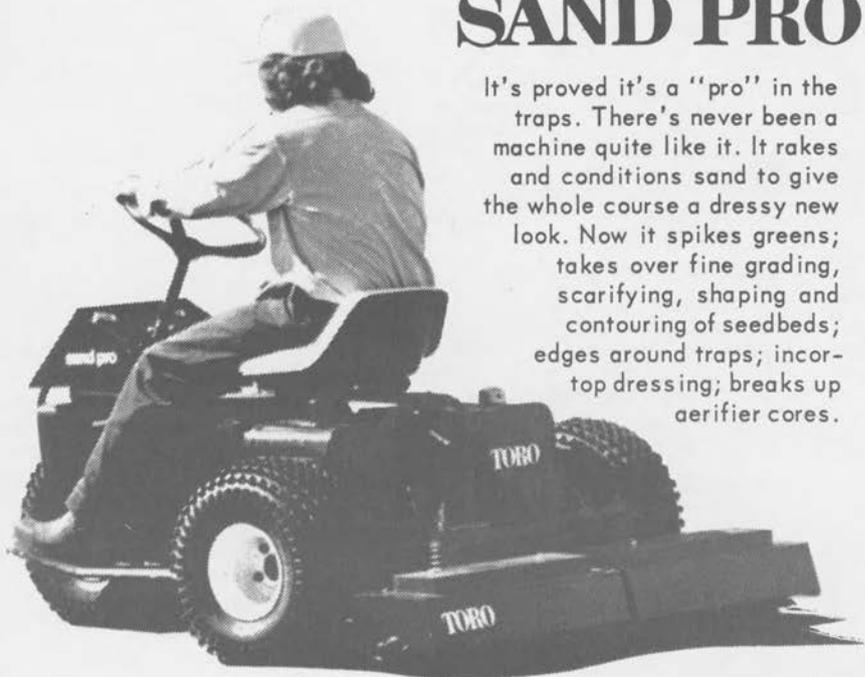
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6 ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS WE NEVER THOUGHT YOU'D ASK (BUT DECIDED TO ANSWER ANYWAY)

1 Yes, GCSAA can help you become a better superintendent. One way it does this is through educational seminars and conference sessions it sponsors each year to help you become better informed about turfgrass diseases, pesticides, landscaping and management practices.

2 Yes, GCSAA is helping to further the advancement of the turfgrass industry. Through the GCSAA Scholarship & Research Fund, Inc., GCSAA provided more than \$13,500 last year in research grants to leading turfgrass programs. GCSAA also provides educational opportunities to turfgrass students through annual turfgrass scholarships.

4 Yes, GCSAA offers recognition for superintendents. Through its public relations efforts, its magazine, and its award programs, GCSAA helps promote the image and the professionalism of the superintendent. GCSAA also provides information to superintendents about how they can use public relations to promote their own image to their course, their community and their association.

3 Yes, GCSAA provides a meeting ground for superintendents. Each year, GCSAA sponsors an annual conference and show for its members. Last year more than 6,500 educators, industry representatives and members from all over the world attended. GCSAA's executive committee decided at its last board meeting that the conference experience is so valuable that first-year members should be encouraged to attend by being given free admission.

5 Yes, GCSAA provides each member with a life insurance program. Supplemental insurance, disability and pension programs also are available.

6 No, GCSAA can't help you with your golf handicap. You'll have to work on that yourself.



GCSAA

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Snow greeted us after the meeting at the Detroit Golf Club.



Speakers at Seminar -
Left - Fritz McMullen
Center - Bruce Wolfrom
Right - Jerry Faubel



Superintendents and their
Greens Chairmen - attending
the seminar.



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Left to Right -
 Keith Paterson - Supt. Spring
 Lake G. C., Roger Barton - Supt.
 Blythefield G. C.-Grand Rapids,
 Carl Schwartzkopf - USGA



Left to Right -
 Carl Schwartzkopf - USGA, Tom
 Deaton - Pro, Franklin Hills,
 Clem Wolfrom - Co-Chairman, Mr.
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Left to Right -
 Mike Edgerton, Jerry Faubel,
 Dr. Paul Rieke, James
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RETIRING: 62 OR 65?

The question of whether to retire at age 62 or wait until age 65 is one which becomes increasingly knotty for those approaching that time of life. When you retire determines to a large extent the amount you will receive in social security benefits, and several variables determine which will be best for you.

If you retire at age 62, your basic benefit will be reduced to make up the extra three years of payments. At age 62, your reduced benefit will be 30 percent of the age 65 rate, but the closer to age 65 you retire, the smaller the reduction.

The reduction in benefits is permanent, but several other factors can raise or lower the actual payments you will receive. For example, you will be entitled to cost-of-living and other general increases. If you return to work before age 65, you will lose some benefits while you are working, but your benefit check the month you turn 65 will be higher because you received fewer payments before 65 than originally anticipated. If you work anytime after retirement and earn enough to increase your lifetime average earnings, your benefits also will increase.

While you may work and still collect social security payments, you are limited in the amount you may earn without forfeiting some portion of your benefits. However, at age 72, you will receive your full monthly check no matter how much you earn. Only earned income, earnings from a job or self-employment, is counted, not investment income, moving expenses, sick pay or standby pay.

Arranging your retirement to collect maximum benefits is a complicated matter which requires a great deal of planning. Be sure you get adequate advice from a professional in this field before you take the big step. It could pay additional dividends in the years to come.

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HAMILTON WINS GCSAA TOURNAMENT!

Guadalajara, Mexico - T.C. Hamilton, CGCS, superintendent of the Dallas (Texas) Country Club, came from four strokes back to beat defending champion Dan Meyers, CGCS, Temple Terrace (Fla.) Golf and Country Club in a one-hole playoff during the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America's annual golf tournament. The tournament was played on three Guadalajara, Mexico courses.

Hamilton, the 1978 winner, played the final eight holes at 3-under par to tie Meyers at the end of the 36 holes of regulation play, and his par on the first playoff hole gave him the title. Vaughn Barker, superintendent of Fore Lakes Golf Club, Murray, Utah, finished one shot back and won the Seniors Flight by a large margin.

A total of 70 superintendents, club officials and exhibitors from Canada, Mexico and the U.S. competed in the Mexican sunshine, although gusty winds sometimes made scoring difficult. The first tournament round was played on the Santa Anita Country Club course, where Cleto Cervantes is superintendent, and the second round was played at San Isidro Golf Club, where Jose Berches is superintendent. Eleven ladies participated in an 18-hole tournament at the Guadalajara Country Club, Alex Equirte, a new GCSAA member, is superintendent there.

Frank Lamphier, Aspetuck Valley Country Club, Weston, Conn., won the handicap division with a net score of 147, and Meyers' steady play helped Florida West Coast Chapter teammates Dick Grill, Lakewood Country Club, St. Petersburg, and Reed LeFebvre, Mainlands Country Club, Plant City, win the chapter championship over a team from the New Mexico Chapter.

Ruth Redman, Creve Couer, Mo., won the ladies tournament with a score of 102, three strokes ahead of Dianne Apodaca, Belen, N.M.

Continued on Page 18

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BE A GOOD SUPERVISOR

One crucial test of good supervision is what happens when managers are not around. Do people carry on as usual or does everything grind to a halt? If things do slow down, it could mean you've let your people become too dependent on you.

Some managers are the world's greatest as long as they are there to supervise their people every second. But let them leave their desk for a day or so and the place seems to come apart at the seams. Disputes flare up, decisions aren't made, people slow down and start putting things off.

The way people work when their leaders aren't available reflects the difference between average and superior management. Good managers strive to build an organization that is so effective it can carry on without them.

The things that happen—or fail to happen—while managers are away depend a great deal on the way they normally operate. Some supervisors, unfortunately, enjoy having their associates completely dependent on them. They do all the important thinking, make all the major decisions—and sometimes the minor ones as well. As a result, when they're not available, no one is prepared to assume responsibility for decisions even in their own assigned areas.

Good managers, by comparison, act more like coaches than quarterbacks. They encourage people to take responsibility not only for the routine operation of their particular functions but the thinking as well.

They expect their associates to bring them not merely problems but also to recommend answers. They review their thinking, check their logic, raise objections which might not have occurred to the associate, and suggest alternatives that might not have been considered.

Basically, they help their people do a better job—but they don't try to do it for them. They are training them how to think about their problems. As a result, when they're not around, their people

have a good idea how to carry on themselves, plus the confidence and courage to do so.

Sure—it's flattering to the ego to be the king pin, the indispensable person. But it's also comforting to have the kind of organization where you can step out of the picture for a few days and be reasonably certain that things are running smoothly while you're gone.

The best way to make yourself a candidate for promotion is to train associates who can carry on without you. It means you are obviously ready and available to move up.

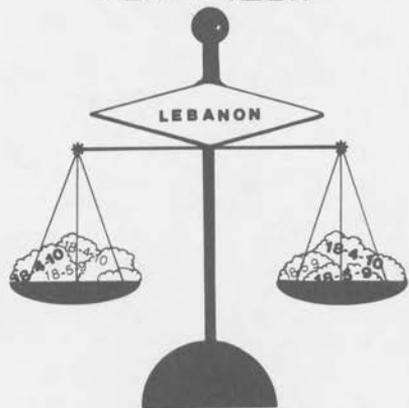
Century/Rain Bird issues its second annual turfgrass research challenge to the golf course superintendents of the Border Cities league.

All players must be class "A" superintendents in good standing (not necessarily standing good).

To avoid the remote possibility of a fluke replay of last year's 5-2 superintendent victory, a best of three (3) series will be held.

Dates and actual field sites shall be

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chosen by the superintendents with one game being held northside of Detroit, one game southside of Detroit, and one game westside of Detroit.

Sign up for team will be with Jerry Gill from Tam O'Shanter.

Stakes are as follows:

\$100.00 for each game in which the super's get 10 warm bodies on the field. \$100.00 additional for overall 2 out of 3 super victory or \$200.00 for super's 2 game sweep.

Total amount \$400.00 payable to the event of victory to the Michigan Turfgrass Research Foundation.

Midwest Regional Turf Conference

Once again, Purdue University was the site of another successful Turf Conference.

Dr. William Daniel was honored for his 30 years of dedicated work in Turf research and unselfish efforts to advance the turfgrass industry.

The evening of March 4, 1980 was selected to present him with a gift from his friends. The occasion was the

annual banquet. President Bud Camp presented him with a beautiful "One of a Kind" Bridge Table and four chairs. The table has an inlaid plaque with a message from his many friends thanking him for his help in making our job a little easier.



Also at Purdue, another person was honored. He is Ben Warren.

A Grass Salute was given to Ben for his work on Bluegrass Development for all phases of turf use.

"Thanks" to Ben for all the work he has done for us.

Hale Named GCSAA Director of Communications

Lawrence, Kan. — Dick Hale, formerly editor of THE GOLF SUPERINTENDENT, official publication of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, returned to GCSAA Feb. 11 to assume the duties of director of communications.

Hale had been editor of PGA MAGAZINE and business manager of all publications of the Professional Golfers Association since the fall of 1976. He served as editor of THE GOLF SUPERINTENDENT, forerunner of GOLF COURSE MANAGEMENT, from 1974 to 1976. A journalism graduate of the University of Kansas, Lawrence, Hale edited and published newspapers in Kansas before joining GCSAA.

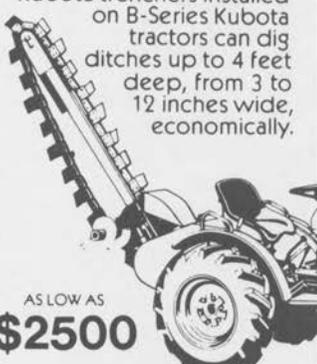
As director of communications, Hale will serve as editor of GOLF COURSE MANAGEMENT and coordinate other activities of the GCSAA communications department. The communications department handles all public relations and promotional activities for the association.

"I'm pleased to be moving back to GCSAA. I think the association is a strong one, and this is a good opportunity for me," Hale said. He replaces John M. Schilling, who is now GCSAA director of marketing and sales.

Hale and his wife Nancy have four children.

DITCH!

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Hamilton Wins, cont.

"We couldn't have asked for better facilities or cooperation," Tournament Chairman Rich Eichner, CGCS, said. "The superintendents, their staffs and host club officials really made us feel welcome."

Lamphier, who also served as tournament coordinator, added "From the standpoint of enjoyment - golf, accomodations and hospitality - the Guadalajara tournament has to rank near the top of all GCSAA championships.

SPRINKLER IRRIGATION SUPPLY COMPANY MOVES

Austin J. Miller, President of Sprinkler Irrigation Supply Company, announces the opening of its new office and warehouse at 1115 Republic Drive, Addison, Illinois, 60101.

It is larger than the former facility at 1738 Armitage Court, Addison, to better serve the turf irrigation market, carrying a full line of products from manufacturers as Buckner, Nelson, Moody, Royal Coach, Cornell and many more!

Mr. Miller extends an invitation to all to come in and see this new facility and meet the Sisco salesmen, Jim Flannigan and Greg Deegan.

SISCO, a leading distributor of turf and farm irrigation products, is headquartered in the Detroit suburb of Royal Oak, Michigan, and maintains other yards and sales offices in Byron, Lakeview and White Pigeon, Michigan.

Dr. David Martin Back in Michigan

Dr. Martin, former Ohio State University Agronomist was recently honored as "Man of the Year" by the Ohio Turfgrass Foundation. Dr. Martin received his graduate degrees from MSU. He is now back in Michigan working for the Chem Lawn Corp.

Welcome home. It's good to have you back in Michigan.

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