

# A PATCH OF GREEN



FALL, 1997



**Your  
New  
John Deere  
Golf & Turf  
Distributor**

*Your Best  
Source  
For  
Equipment & Financing*



Our over 50 years' experience in the outdoor power equipment industry has now been combined with the largest and oldest manufacturer of equipment in the world

# **WEINGARTZ**

## **Golf & Turf Equipment**

**UTICA**  
**46061 VAN DYKE**

**FARMINGTON HILLS**  
**39050 GRAND RIVER**

**1-888-JD-TURF**

**Fax (248) 471-6948**



# A PATCH OF GREEN

Greater Detroit Golf Course  
Superintendents Association

The Official Publication of the Greater Detroit  
Golf Course Superintendents Association

**Officers President**

Paul Dushane

**Vice President**

Paul Kolbe  
Committee: GAM Seminar,  
Christmas Party, Historian

**President Emeritus**

Jay Delcamp  
Committee: Ethics,  
By-Laws, Nominating

**Secretary/Treasurer**

Roy Szyndlar, C.G.C.S.  
Committee: Finance,  
Welfare, Policy Book,  
Co-Hospitality Room

**Directors**

Tim Dorer, C.G.C.S.  
Committee: POG Editor, Publicity

Ed Hock, Jr.  
Committee: Co-Special Olympics,  
Co-Golf Day,  
Member Relations/Membership

Mike Jones  
Committee: Co-Education,  
Co-Golf Day  
Co-Special Olympics

Mark McKinley  
Committee: Co-Golf Day,  
Co-Hospitality Room,  
Co-Awards

Rick Murphy, C.G.C.S.  
Committee: Co-Awards,  
Co-Education  
Industrial/Environmental Relations

Gary Thommes, C.G.C.S.  
Committee: Co-Special Olympics,  
Picnic, Co-Golf

Tom Mason  
Committee: GCSAA Liaison,  
GCSAA Voting Delegate

**Contact for  
GDGCSA  
Information**

Kate Mason  
Executive Secretary

GDGCSA  
P.O. Box 173, Troy, MI 48099  
(248) 362-1108  
Fax: (248) 362-1736  
E-Mail: gdgcsa@aol.com

## Contents

5	On Par With The President
6	Fall Management Meeting
7	Annual Meeting
8	The Invitational
9	The View From M.S.U.
11	Field Day
13	Member Viewpoint
15	Annual Picnic
17	The Irrigation Corner
19	Nutrient Management
21	Heritage Award Essay
23	Board Meeting - July 28, 1997
24	Board Meeting - August 25, 1997
25	New Member Roster
30	Calendar

**Printed by:** Schaltenbrand Printing Company  
16315 Harper Avenue  
Detroit, MI 48224  
(313) 882-4343

## DAVEY KEEPS THE GIANTS OF GOLFING STANDING TALL

You know that mature trees add challenge as well as beauty. You also know mature trees are impossible to replace. Davey knows how to help protect these valuable assets from decline, lightening, storm damage, insects and disease. Davey will inventory your trees, evaluate the condition of each one, and give you

a report prioritizing treatments. Over time, expert care from Davey will actually reduce your tree maintenance costs. Davey also provides turf fertilization and broadleaf weed control services, too!

Keep your valuable assets standing tall with the leader in tree care since 1880. Call Davey today!



(248) 689-2200 • Troy  
(313) 459-8690 • Canton Twp.



# BOOMER™



## THE ULTIMATE POWER TOOL

New Boomer compact diesels are designed for hard work from the ground up. Better maneuverability, versatility, and ease of service.

- Supersteer™ FWD axle reduce turnaround diameter up to 50%
- Innovative styling means high visibility and ease of operation
- Comfort-Plus™ deck applies ergonomic design for greater operator comfort
- Flip-up hood and easy-off side panels make service simple

See Boomer now!

### WM.F. SELL & SON, INC.

16555 S. Telegraph Road  
Taylor, Michigan 48180  
313/282-5100 Fax: 313/282-1279

**BOOMER**  
It Rocks.



NEW HOLLAND

# on par <sup>with</sup> <sub>the</sub> president



Were you aware that our association has a by-law requiring minimum attendance to maintain your membership status? Well, it does. The by-laws of the association are included in your annual membership directory for your reference and informational needs. I urge each of you to peruse these by-laws and their associated articles when you get a chance to familiarize or re-familiarize yourself, whichever the case, with these important rules.

Article 1, Membership, Section 3 is titled: Loss of membership. It states that failure to attend a meeting of the association for a period of six months could result in loss of membership. This means that each member is only required to attend two meetings per year; not a monumental requirement. An association is only as strong as its members wish it to be, and strength comes from participation.

Please do not sit back and allow the few who are involved make all of the decisions for the majority who are not involved. Much can be learned from interaction with your peers, from simple socialization skills and public speaking to many tips and tricks of the trade. These items cannot be learned from hearing about what went on at a meeting from another member; you have to be there personally to absorb and practice these skills. The more members who attend a meeting, the more viewpoints and opinions there are to be shared. Each individual has an invaluable viewpoint and it is important as professionals to share them amongst the entire association. Together we prosper. Alone we risk failure. Your Board of Directors requests that you please attempt to attend more meetings in the future!

A reminder for those of you with college aged children: the Heritage Award applications and required essays are due October 31, 1997. Any son or daughter of any association member is eligible for these awards, so please be sure to meet the deadline! Two awards are to go to deserving students that write an essay concerning golf and the environment. Each award is worth ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS! Come on students! Sharpen your pencils, dust off your keyboards, put on your thinking caps and tell us about the positive effects the game of golf, and more importantly, golf courses can have on our environment.

I hope that each of you has a pleasant fall season and look forward to seeing you all at future meetings.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul M. Dushane".

Paul M. Dushane

# Fall Management Meeting

Monday, October 27, 1997 - Novi Hilton 9am till 3pm

An all-day educational seminar is planned for the last Monday in October at the Novi Hilton. The Educational Committee has been hard at work to make this a successful day. Your participation in this meeting will be greatly appreciated. We will be covering numerous topics:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 8:30 REGISTRATION & CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST  | 10:45 BREAK  |
| 9:00 WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS<br>Tom Schall, Superintendent, Oak Pointe<br>Country Club   | 11:00 PGR & ROLLING EFFECT ON PUTTING<br>GREENS<br>Dr. Trey Rogers, Dept. Crop/Soil Sciences,<br>Michigan State University<br>John Hardy, Dept. Crop/Soil Sciences,<br>Michigan State University |
| 9:05 AUDUBON COOPERATIVE SANCTUARY<br>SYSTEM<br>Lee Mangum, ACSS Program Manager,<br>Selkirk, New York   | 11:45 LUNCH  |
| 10:05 HIGHLIGHTING THE CERTIFICATION PROCESS<br>IN THE AUDUBON COOPERATIVE<br>SANCTUARY SYSTEM<br>Mike Giuffree, Superintendent, T.P.C. of<br>Michigan<br>Jeff Holmes, Superintendent, Egypt Valley<br>Eric Niemur, Superintendent, Fox Hills Golf<br>Course<br>Bruce Wolfrom, Superintendent/Owner, White<br>Pines National | 1:00 WEATHER INFORMATION & WHAT TO EXPECT<br>THIS WINTER<br>John McMurray, WJR Meteorologist   |
|  | 1:45 BENTGRASS REVIEW<br>Rick Elyea, Turf Seed Inc.<br>Mark Jackson, Superintendent, Country Club of<br>Detroit<br>Kurt Thuemmel, Superintendent, Walnut Hills<br>Country Club                   |
|  | 2:30 ADJOURN   |

We have applied for credits for your Michigan Pesticide License. This should be a good opportunity to receive a few credits for yourselves, as well as any employees. We will let you know at the meeting what, if any, have been approved by the State. If you did not receive a flyer on this meeting, call (248) 362-1108 to receive one. Register in advance, as space is limited.



## We Drive The World To Work And Play.

You may know Club Car as the most prestigious name on the golf course. But our Carryall Utility Vehicles are powerful enough to take on the toughest jobs at any work site, any day of the week. So no matter how hard you work or play, count on Club Car for world-class performance and the power to drive you there.



**CLUB CAR, INC.**  
MICHIGAN BRANCH  
(800) 482-8830

# Greater Detroit Golf Course Superintendents Annual Meeting September 22, 1997 The Wyndgate Golf Club

by Mike Jones

On Monday September 22, 119 members of our organization met to play golf at The Wyndgate Golf Club. Host Superintendent Jeff West and his staff had the course in superb condition. There was not an individual who could not be impressed with the landscaping or course conditioning, or the service that we received as guests. Mr. Larry Winget should be very proud of the club. We would also like to say "thank you" to Mr. Winget for his generous support of our association. We were the first outing allowed to use the course and it was an honor to play.

The C. H. Wolfrom Classic Championship was conducted and our new champion is Scott Buzzel from Romeo Golf Club. Scott had a low net of 69. Other scores are as follows:

#### Low Net

Scott Buzzel - 69  
Tom Gill - 71  
Scott Gardiner - 71  
Ron Adams - 72

#### Low Gross

Lowell Weaver - 80  
Jerry Prieskorn - 80  
Mark Policht - 80  
Gary Thommes - 81

**Closest to Pin #5** - Tom Gill (47")

**Closest to Pin #14** - Marty Sommerfield (50")

**Longest Drive #9** - Lowell Weaver (310 yds)

**Longest Drive #17** - Jerry Prieskorn (317 yds)

After a great dinner the Annual Business Meeting was conducted by our President Paul Dushane. Committee reports recapped the year. The election of officers and directors then were the order. The new officers (for a one-year term) and directors (for a three-year term) are:

**President** - Paul Kolbe

**Vice President** - Roy Szyndlar

**Secretary/Treasurer** - Mark McKinley

#### Directors

Tom Schall, CGCS - Oak Pointe Country Club

Ron Abbott, CGCS - Bogie Lake Golf Club

The Board of Directors and the Association would like to extend a "thank you" to Ed Hock for his service to the Greater Detroit Association. Adjournment will not be the same without Ed.

Paul Dushane also deserves recognition for his undying contribution to this Association as our President. He represented us all with dignity and led the organization with a vitality that was needed at this time. So, thank you for a term well served, Paul.



Left - (Left to Right) Director Ron Abbott, Director Tom Schall, Vice President Roy Szyndlar, President Paul Kolbe, Secretary/Treasurer Mark McKinley

Below Left - Host Superintendent Jeff West (left) and outgoing President Paul Dushane

Below - New Board for 1988. (Back Row) Ron Abbott, Paul Kolbe, Tom Schall, Mark McKinley, Kate Mason, Gary Thommes. (Front Row) Tim Dorner, Mike Jones, Paul Dushane



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Oct. 6**            **"The Big Event"**  
                       **Bay Pointe GC**  
                       **Birmingham CC**  
                       **Edgewood CC**  
                       **Orchard Lake CC**  
                       **Plum Hollow GC**
- Oct. 27**           **Fall Mgmt Meeting**  
                       **Novi Hilton**
- Nov. 11**           **GCSAA Seminar**  
                       **Novi Hilton**
- Dec. 9**            **Supts. Only Meeting**  
                       **Birmingham CC**
- Dec. 13**           **Christmas Party**  
                       **Walnut Creek CC**

## THE INVITATIONAL

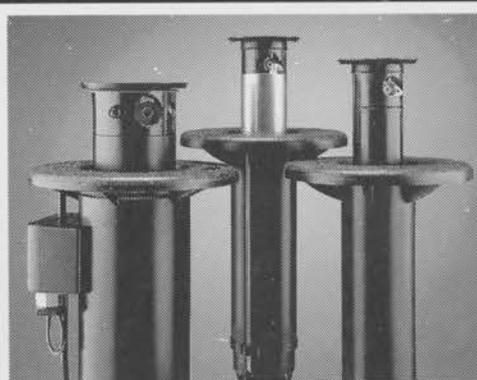
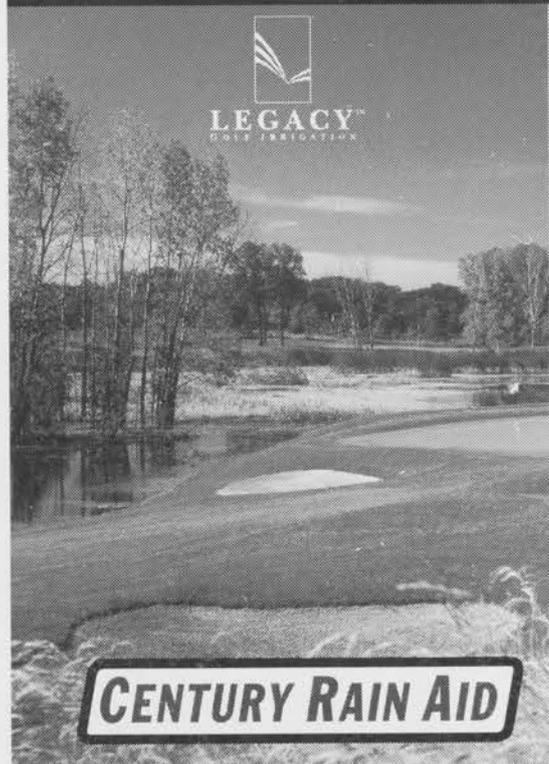
*by Rick Murphy, CGCS*

On July 31st, the 19th annual fund raising event, The Invitational, was held at the Links at Pinewood. Twenty-five teams competed for first-place bragging rights. Stonycroft Hills Club and Detroit Golf Club tied for first, with Stonycroft winning in a scorecard playoff.

It was a great day of golf, weather and food. This year, \$16,250 was raised, with half going to M.S.U. for turf research and the other half going to the Golf Association of Michigan for junior golf. Mr. Ernie Fuller, owner of the Links, was again very gracious in donating his facility for these good causes.

For those who have not participated in this event, each team is comprised of a golf pro and course superintendent, and three other players of their choice. Every cent of the entry fee (\$100 for the pro and superintendent and \$150 for all others) is donated to turf research and junior golf. The format is an 18-hole scramble at 8:00 a.m., followed by a gourmet meal. Look for a mailer in early July for next year's event.

## LEGACY – RELIABLE PRODUCTS FOR GOLF COURSES



*Legacy Golf Rotors*

### Century – Your Link to Legacy Golf

More golf course professionals like yourself are switching to Legacy irrigation. Your local Century golf representative can show you the advantages of a Legacy system and can offer valuable technical assistance on a new course or retrofit.

CENTURY GOLF PROFESSIONALS - MICHIGAN  
**Brian Birdwell • 810-588-2990**  
**Roger Griffith • 616-954-0660**  
**Ray Hentschel • 810-588-2990**

LEGACY GOLF NOW  
 AVAILABLE AT  
 CENTURY RAIN AID IN  
 THESE MAJOR MARKETS

- ALABAMA • DELAWARE
- FLORIDA • GEORGIA
- ILLINOIS • INDIANA
- MARYLAND • MICHIGAN
- MINNESOTA • NEW JERSEY
- NORTH CAROLINA
- PENNSYLVANIA
- SOUTH CAROLINA
- VIRGINIA • WEST VIRGINIA
- WISCONSIN
- ONTARIO, CANADA

**Call for a Free Catalog**  
**800-347-4272**

[www.rainaid.com](http://www.rainaid.com)

# Shade Problems? M.S.U. to the Rescue

by Dr. James Baird

Trees are an integral part of most golf courses and turf landscapes. However, shade from trees often results in turf thinning or loss, especially on putting greens. While removing the tree(s) may be the most immediate and effective way to rectify problems associated with low light intensity, it is in the best interest of the game of golf that we develop turfgrasses and turfgrass management strategies that are better adapted to shade environments. Before we formulate strategies aimed at growing better turf in shade, let's briefly review some of the effects of shade on the turfgrass plant and the turf environment.

**Shade Effects on the Turfgrass Plant.** Shade from trees and other structures reduces not only the quantity of photosynthetically active radiation (PAR) but also the quality of PAR reaching the turf canopy. Turfgrasses grown in shade receive less PAR from the blue and red regions of the spectra and, especially under trees, a lower ratio of red/far-red radiation. Alteration in light quality and quantity regulates seed germination of some species. In addition, turfgrasses undergo significant morphological changes in response to altered light including decreased leaf thickness, leaf width, tillering, and root mass, and increased stem and leaf elongation, and vertical growth habit. Low light causes several anatomical changes including reduced chloroplasts, cuticle, and cell wall thickness, and stomatal density, and higher lignin content. Physiological responses to shade include reduced photosynthesis, respiration, carbohydrate synthesis and storage, and transpiration.

**It's More Than Just a Color Issue.** Turf problems in shade are caused by many factors other than just low light intensity. Shade from trees or other structures reduces turf canopy air temperatures by about 2-4° F and bare soil air temperatures by as much as 36° F. While cooler temperatures in shade may be beneficial to turf during hot and dry periods of summer, shade environments can exacerbate lower temperatures in fall, winter and spring thus causing potential detrimental effects to turf growth. Shade also increases relative humidity above the turf canopy which, together with reduced temperature, results in lower evapotranspiration, increased soil moisture, and greater potential for disease development. The relationship of shade to soil moisture and temperature together with the physiological and morphological changes to plants grown in low light has led several turf scientists to conclude that resistance to drought, waterlogging, and low temperatures is equally important to low light adaptation when selecting turfgrasses for shade environments. From my experiences, I would add that resistance to traffic would play a significant role in turfgrass shade tolerance.

**In Search of Shade Tolerant Turfgrasses.** Plants adapted to full sun have been observed to exhibit greater morphological plasticity to grow in low light than plants adapted to shade. Furthermore, it would be important to select for shade tolerance among plants adapted to sun because of their higher seed yield potential (from a breeding standpoint) and greater potential to survive if the shade source is suddenly removed. From a morphological standpoint, selection for shade tolerance in turfgrasses should focus on plants that are able to maintain the same morphological characteristics as observed in full sun. Physiological adaptations to shade include increased chlorophyll content, decreased chlorophyll *a/b* ratio, increased photosystem II/I ratio, changed pigment composition, greater granal stacking, and reduced respiration.

Thus far, a gene or combinations of genes associated with shade tolerance have not been identified. As a result, the best approach to genetically improving turfgrasses for shade tolerance lies in the use of somaclonal variation. *In vitro* cultured plant cells frequently face nuclear genetic and cytoplasmic modification to adjust themselves to the unusually stressful *in vitro* culture media and environmental conditions. This phenomenon which is due to "microevolutions in the test tube" is referred to as somaclonal variation. Somaclonal variation is used by scientists to develop plants that may contain new desirable traits such as herbicide resistance (when cells are cultured in a medium containing a herbicide) or salt resistance (when cells are cultured in a highly saline medium). In addition, pre-existing *in vivo* genetic variability in cells, plus mutations and genomic rearrangement that usually occurs in cells grown *in vitro*, can result in new undesirable (i.e. sterility, albinism, etc.) or desirable (disease resistance, insect resistance, shade resistance, etc.) traits that could be inherited in plants that are regenerated from cells *in vitro* culture. Somaclonal variation is an excellent choice and a new tool to supplement plant breeding for crop improvement. Currently, there exists over 1,000 genetically improved crop species developed either via *in vitro* selection or somaclonal variation systems.

**What Should We Do in the Meantime?** While you are waiting for us to develop turfgrasses with improved shade tolerance, here are a few suggestions for managing your existing turf under low light conditions: 1) maintain a tree pruning and thinning program to maximize light penetration and air movement across the turf canopy; 2) raise turf mowing height to help counterbalance the detrimental effects of shade on rooting; 3) avoid excessive irrigation



### Mechanical Soil Technology

— Contract Aeration Service —  
Serving The Entire Midwest

David Strang  
Ph. (800) 743-2419  
Res. (309) 342-2419

456 Pine St.  
Galesburg, IL. 61401

V  
E  
R  
T  
I  
-  
D  
R  
A  
I  
N

and maintain adequate drainage; 4) maintain satisfactory fertility; and 5) evade intensive traffic over heavily-shaded turf.

**Where Do We Go From Here?** Managing turf under shade presents challenges that are common to most all turf sites including golf courses, lawns, and sports stadia. As a result Michigan State University has made a long-term commitment to study management and physiological factors related to turfgrass growth in shade and, as a result, develop turfgrass germplasm that is better adapted to shade conditions.

In order to launch our shade research project, the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation has committed funding for research equipment and construction of shade research facilities. In the first phase of our research, we will focus on strategies to grow creeping bentgrass in shade. Within this project, we plan to develop shade tolerant creeping bentgrass via *in vitro* selection and somaclonal variation. Furthermore, we will evaluate the shade tolerant species *Poa supina*, both as a model for shade tolerance and as a potential turfgrass species for use on golf courses in Michigan and abroad. *Poa supina* is a stoloniferous species native to the European Alps. Its desirable characteristics include tolerance of shade, low mowing heights, disease, and wear. Its undesirable traits include a light green color and drought susceptibility due to a shallow root system. The shade project will compliment the ongoing indoor sports turf research program at MSU.

So before you Cut down that tree that took the span of our lifetime to grow, remember that MSU is looking for ways in which we may enjoy great trees alongside great turf.



**BIG ENOUGH TO SERVE YOU BETTER  
SMALL ENOUGH TO CARE**

**One of R&R PRODUCTS Largest Stocking Dealers**

### QUALITY REPLACEMENT PARTS

GENUINE KOHLER • JACOBSEN • HAHN-WESTPOINT  
CUSHMAN • TORO • ROSEMAN • RANSOME  
MOTT • RYAN • YAZOO • FORD • EXCEL  
NATIONAL • BRIGGS & STRATTON



**IRRIGATION PARTS  
KORMAT**

**YOUR ONE - STOP - SHOP FOR YOUR SUPPLY ITEMS:  
FLAGS - CUPS - POLES - RAKES  
EXCELLENT QUALITY PERSONALIZED TUBE FLAGS**

#### WE ALSO HANDLE

- |                         |                          |                       |                            |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| A&B-SORBOIL EMULSIFIER  | FOX VALLY MARKING PAINTS | PLASTIC CHAIN         | SIMPLEX GRINDING EQUIPMENT |
| ALLEN HOOVER MOWERS     | HOLE-IN-WHITE            | RAIN SUITS            | TEE TOWELS                 |
| BAYCO SUPPLIES          | HOSE • 3/4" & 1"         | RED MAX EQUIPMENT     | TIRES                      |
| CLOVER LAPPING COMPOUND | LIFT RAMP/WORK TABLE     | ROPE & STAKES         | TIRE CHANGERS              |
| DEDOES PARTS            | MARFAX 00 LUBRICANT      | ROTARY BLADES         | TIRE SEALANTS              |
| EARTHWAY SPREADERS      | PAR AIDE SUPPLIES        | ROTARY BLADE GRINDERS | TRIMMER LINE & HEADS       |
| FAIRWAY MARKERS         | PLASTIC SIGNS            | RUBBER WORK BOOTS     | WHITE CEDAR FURNITURE      |

**CALL US TOLL FREE - 1-800-888-7779  
WE GUARANTEE WHAT WE SELL!**

VISIT OUR WEB PAGE AT <http://members.aol.com/dcdist>



Above - Greg Lyman addresses crowd at opening ceremonies  
 Right - Dr. Vargas explains some of his research work

## FIELD DAY REPORT

by Paul Kolbe

### Now Available Nationwide!

**SUSTANE**  
 Organic Fertilizer



Organic-based fertilizer choices from LESCO offer important features and benefits for a wide range of granular applications.

- Natural organic products release nutrients gradually, delivering long lasting results
- Minimizes waste and risk of plant injury
- Improves soil quality and encourages microbe activity
- Available in a wide range of formulations

LESCO...the ideal fertilizer choice. Ask your LESCO Professional for information or call 800-321-5325.

**Green Flo**  
 Liquid Fertilizer

Liquid fertilizer choices from LESCO offer key features and benefits for your liquid application needs.

- Contains patented Triozone<sup>®</sup> slow-release technology
- Increases plant growth efficiency
- Increases nitrogen absorption
- Convenient to use with long lasting results
- Available in a wide range of formulations

**LESCO**<sup>™</sup>

Sustane is a registered trademark of Sustane Corp. Triozone is a trademark of Tessenderlo Kerley. LESCO and GreenFlo are trademarks of LESCO, Inc.

The Michigan Turfgrass Field Day on August 28, 1997 had over 100 attendees. Co-Chairman Greg Lyman and David Gilstrap did an outstanding job in the weather and organization of this annual event.

Some of the research discussed were Bioject update, summer decline of creeping bentgrass and annual bluegrass, PGR and rolling effect on putting greens. Also, on the ateanius beetle research, Nikki Rothwell and Dr. Dave Smitley concluded that the ateanius grubs are found more often in the shorter mowed turf (fairways), compared to the roughs. Also, there seems to be an inverse relationship between predators (rove beetles and ground beetles) and milky spore disease and ateanius grubs, with more predators in rough mowed turf.

Alternative spikes were experimented with and the attendees rated the conditions of the plots with various spikes and sole design. Twenty golf greens maintained at 5/32" cutting heights were trafficked with different golf shoe bottoms. The treatments include 16 different spikes on Dry Joy golf shoes and three different golf sole bottoms. The results will be discussed at this winter's MTF Conference. Thomas Nikolai is doing the research.

Dr. Trey Rogers talked about managing *Poa supina*. The trade show and lunch followed, with the equipment auction raising \$13,000. Over 50 companies contributed to this event.

**Lost Turf?  
Messy Service Shop?  
Soft Spots in Parking?**  
from  
**OIL SPILLS**



- An Environmentally Friendly fix for these problems
- Researched by the MSU Dept. of Botany & Plant Pathology as an effective means of reducing damage to turf
- Prevents stripping and resodding of damaged turf
- Does not allow hydrocarbons absorbed to leach out and do further damage to the environment
- Suitable for landfill disposal
- A variety of kits to choose

distributed by  
Benham Chemical Corporation

**800-482-6520**

**ZORBIT**  
TECHNOLOGIES INC.



**NJK Associates, Inc.**  
**Water Management Systems**

***Specialists in Irrigation and  
Dewatering Pump Stations***

- ♦ ***Prefabricated Pump Stations***  
200 GPM To 2000 GPM Skid Mount Stations.  
Centrifugal, Vertical Turbine, VFD & Remote Monitor / Control Options Available.
- ♦ ***Application Engineered Pump Stations***  
Engineered Pump Stations Unique To Your Site Location & Application Needs.  
Wetwells - Intake Systems - Structures - Electrical Services
- ♦ ***Retrofit of Existing Pump Stations***  
Incorporation Of Existing Equipment Into Pump Station Design For Maximum Economical Benefit.
- ♦ ***24 Hour Emergency Pump Station Service***  
Around The Clock Service On Any Type Of Pump Station.  
Temporary Pumping Equipment Rentals.  
Emergency Retrofits

5476 Dixie Highway, Waterford, MI. 48329

**Phone: (248) 623-2783**

**Fax: (248) 623-7688**

## Who Defines Our Goals?

by Bob McMurray, Devil's Ridge G.C.

Inside the maintenance tower, Sam sits quietly. The automated mowers are all in for the day. Most of the monitors hummed softly, the screens blank. A tiny red light starts blinking. Sam rolls his seat over in front of the monitor for the eighth green. The turf canopy temperature is getting too high. He punches up a visual of the green, no golfers anywhere near it. Still watching the screen, he reaches over and punches the syringe cycle button. Heads pop up around the green. God, he thinks, this job is just one darn problem after another.

This was just a flight of fancy, inspired by the words of one of my professors at Michigan State. I recall being horrified by the vision. No, I'm not a neo-Luddite dreaming of the day we "live in balance with nature." I love modern plumbing and my dream is one day we live in balance with humanity.

At the time I had just finished reading an account of the impact of the "Green Revolution" on rural America. From a sociological perspective, the introduction of methods of mass production to farming was disastrous. Three million family farms folded in three decades, millions of people moved to the cities and "structural unemployment" became an accepted reality. Unintended consequences, to be sure, yet the fact that so few remember this lesson of history makes me nervous.

Maybe it was poor timing. I would be happy to know for sure that the industry I associate myself with is not being led down the same bleak path. On my own, I cannot convince myself of this. Too many questions regarding our enchantment with technology, and callous disregard for the human factor bother me. As I see it, those are the two main ingredients of an industry-wide sickness.

Making the parallel more striking is the salient role university researchers played in establishing agribusiness, and how happily they proclaim the rise of our business. Research to benefit the turfgrass industry is, at first glance, a wonderful goal. I'm sure most of the people involved in the research and extension efforts that brought about the "Green Revolution" were equally enthralled with their ideals.

Looking over the changes brought to us by researchers, I'm often left wondering who told them we wanted all this. When I hear stories about the millions of dollars spent to develop and bring a new pesticide to market, am I supposed to be impressed, or grateful? Is it beyond imagining a group of researchers stepping back and asking, "Wait a minute, is this worth it?"

The question comes to my mind. While I recognize the value of providing quality recreational facilities, it appalls me that so much energy is spent on a game. I manage a golf course for a living; I'm not going to claim anything more important than that. What I do is not who I am. As a superintendent, I may get a short thrill at the prospect of greater pay because I've gone high-tech, but as a human being I'm insulted that we have such screwed-up priorities.

It is ironic that the momentum of technological change makes us feel so powerful at the same time it impoverishes our lives as human beings. Another instructor in the Turf program told my class that golf courses make money only in terms of increasing the value of the land around them; otherwise, they're "playthings of the rich."

Juxtapose that statement with the fact that Michigan State University is a land-grant public institution for the sharing of practical knowledge. Two questions leap to mind: why would a public institution devote its resources to an enterprise primarily benefitting the already well-off? Does the proliferation of golf courses, supported (to some extent) by publicly funded research, make housing less affordable?

Unintended consequences such as these are the result of our disregard for common human values. Blind acceptance of technology is not modern. Tools are developed for specific purposes that may or may not reflect the values of potential users. New technology should be examined and assessed based upon its social impact, and then weighed economically. As it stands now, we watch the cart go by, notice the horse behind it is limping and frantically go about trying to improve the cart.

Asking the appropriate questions from the start is as important in research as the quality of the people doing it. Rather than research devoted to proving our current tools are safe, would it be too outrageous to study what happens when we take

a few steps away from them? Yes, tell me if the grass is looking like shredded wheat, but also look at our customers' response. Are customers walking away just as satisfied after playing a course that is pesticide-free? Are there significant cost-savings we can pass onto the customer? (See? I'm not entirely against economic considerations.)

My guess is we're not even laying out all the options to our customers. I am constantly amazed that so much of our research seems to be geared towards fixing the problems we created with our previous solutions. Where would the wetting agent manufacturers be now if not for sand-based greens? How much pesticide use can be directly attributed to the lower heights of cut we can achieve with improved mowing equipment? In a very real sense, as a group we need to ask "Uh, could you repeat the question?"

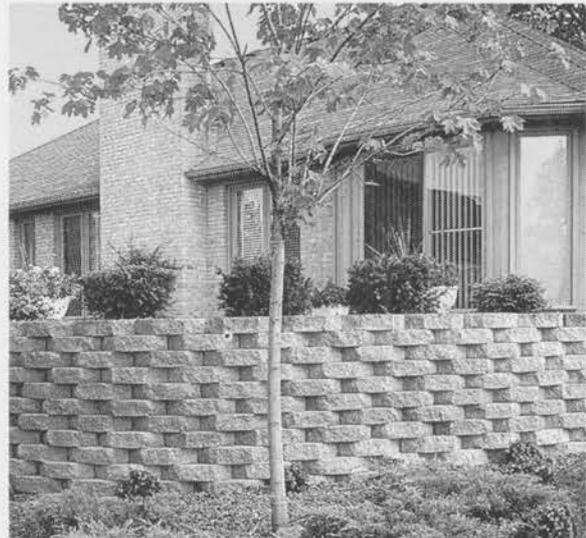
For golf course research, the core questions are what pleases our customers and, when the research is publicly funded, how golf courses benefit a community. If scientific research isn't necessary to answer these questions -- a possibility in my opinion -- then maybe we can direct our energies elsewhere. I am not advocating that we place a moratorium on all other research and development until every human being on the planet goes to bed with cheesecake on their breath, or lives in a 1500 sq. ft. home. I will state I believe we have these nagging problems, just as we can't seem to satisfy our customers in the turf industry, because we have yet to subordinate technology to our spirit.

What goes around, comes around, as the old saying reminds us. Increasing specialization in the turfgrass industry will eventually destroy the turfgrass community. It's quite possible to advance our knowledge and improve our tools on a path with some heart. What we need to do with turf research is look at where we're at and where we want to go. When I train a new employee on a mower I tell him to keep his eyes on an object in the distance, not to watch the machine. There's a lesson for us there: yes, we can build the tools to get wherever we want; the first, all-important step is to see our goal.

## THIS IS THE SMITH'S POOL DECK...



## THIS IS THE SMITH'S RETAINING WALL...



## THIS IS HOW THE SMITHS DID IT... 474-3211

Fendt Builder's Supply has the pavers (many colors and shapes) and Keystone self-locking retaining wall systems that can make your home a showplace. Call for the name of a dealer near you. The Symetry paver and the Keystone retaining walls are distributed exclusively through Fendt Dealers.



*The natural beauty of stone*

**Fendt Builder's Supply, Inc.**

22005 Gill Road • Farmington Hills, MI 48335 • 810-474-3211  
3285 West Liberty • Ann Arbor, MI 48103 • 313-663-4277

# ANNUAL PICNIC AT THE DETROIT ZOO AUGUST 19, 1997

by Gary Thommes, CGCS

The annual picnic was held at the Detroit Zoo this year. The weather cooperated and it was a gorgeous day with sunny skies and temperatures in the mid 70's. The total attendance for the day was 37 adults and 29 children.

The catering company did an excellent job in providing all the amenities needed for a fine meal. Afterwards, people toured the zoo and enjoyed the animals and especially the dinosaur extravaganza that depicted real life sizes of these prehistoric creatures. Everyone in attendance had a great time and we hope that next year more members will take advantage of this fine day that is solely sponsored by your Association.

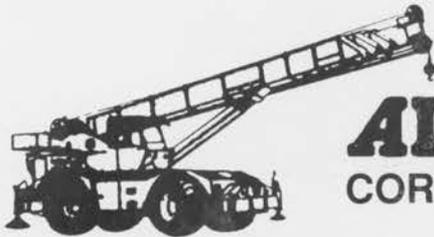
Many thanks to all who attended, and especially to my wife, Rosemarie, for helping in organizing this function.



Above - Rick Murphy and Ken BeBusscher families enjoy the festivities at the annual picnic.



Right - Karen Gray and daughter Jessica enjoyed the day celebrating Jessica's 11th birthday with a beautiful cake and candles.



EASY TO TOW 750 CFM TANDEM AXLE  
MACHINES NOW AVAILABLE.

**ALLINGHAM**  
CORPORATION DETROIT



"A CRANE AND COMPRESSOR RENTAL SERVICE COMPANY"  
**Water lines must be blown out before  
freeze-ups cause extensive repairs.  
For portable air compressor rental call ...**

**(248) 357-5400**

CALL  
STEVE ZELLE

185 cfm to 1800 cfm machines available  
**21250 W. 8 MILE ROAD, SOUTHFIELD, MI**

# TURFGRASS INC.



*Serving you better with . . .*

Technical information  
Free timely delivery

## *. . .Quality products*

<i>Fertilizers</i>	The Andersons, Lebanon, Sustane, Country Club, Nitroform, Nutralene, Pursell Polyon, Turfgrass Custom Blend, Harmony
<i>Chemicals</i>	Ciba-Geigy, W.A. Cleary, Chipco, Roots, Daconil, Miles, NAIAD, Monsanto, Dow-Elanco, Riverdale, PanaSea', Miller, Agri-Plex 4X Lawnplex, No-Mix, Regal Chemical, Dimension, Sand-Aid, Roundup, Dissolve, Agrevo
<i>Seeds</i>	Medalist America Grass Seed, Bloomcoat Wildflower Seed, Zajac Confidence Seed, Seed Research
<i>Spreaders &amp; Sprayers</i>	Spyker, Solo Back Pack, Wheely, Spray-Hawk, Chem-Pro
<i>Golf Supplies</i>	Par Aide, Standard, Fore-Par, Fox Valley, Master of the Links
<i>Enviromental Equipment</i>	Plia Pads, Haz-Store Storage Buildings
<i>Safety Equipment</i>	Mine Safety Equipment
<i>Soil Management</i>	Grid System, TerraFlow, TerraBond, TerraCover
<i>Markers</i>	Richway, Blazon
<i>Recycled Plastic</i>	Hammer's Recycled Plastics

**1-248-437-1427**

Office

**1-800-521-8873**

(Michigan Only)

**Keith Richards**  
**Dan Johanningsmeier**  
**Doug Johanningsmeier**  
**Richard Locke**  
**Darold Howard**  
**Todd Griebe**  
General Manager

## MEMBER NOTICE

Please make a note of the  
Greater Detroit E mail address  
**gdgcsa@aol.com**

### 1998 ROSTER

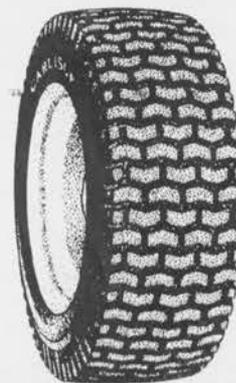
**Deadline: December 20, 1997**

We hope to get next year's Membership Directory out by Mid-January 1998. Any changes or correction to the following information must be received by the Executive Secretary no later than December 20, 1997.

Work place  
Mailing address  
Home Phone  
Work Phone, Fax, E Mail

E mail to **gdgcsa@aol.com** OR  
fax to **(248) 362-1736**, OR  
MAIL to P.O. BOX 173, TROY, MI 48099

Please, don't leave info on voice mail. We don't wish to have any errors.



### TIRES FOR SOD AND SOIL.

**TREAD SETTERS™**



WE SELL CARLISLE LAWN & GARDEN TIRES.  
**Tire Wholesalers Company, Inc.**

**CADILLAC WAREHOUSE**

303 Hawthorne St.  
Cadillac, MI 49601  
(616) 775-6666

**TROY DISTRIBUTION CENTER**

1783 E. 14 Mile  
Troy, MI 48063  
(248) 598-9910

**SOUTHFIELD WAREHOUSE**

19240 W. 8 Mile  
Southfield, MI 48075  
(248) 354-9910



## SYSTEM WINTERIZATION

by David B. Beck, P.E.

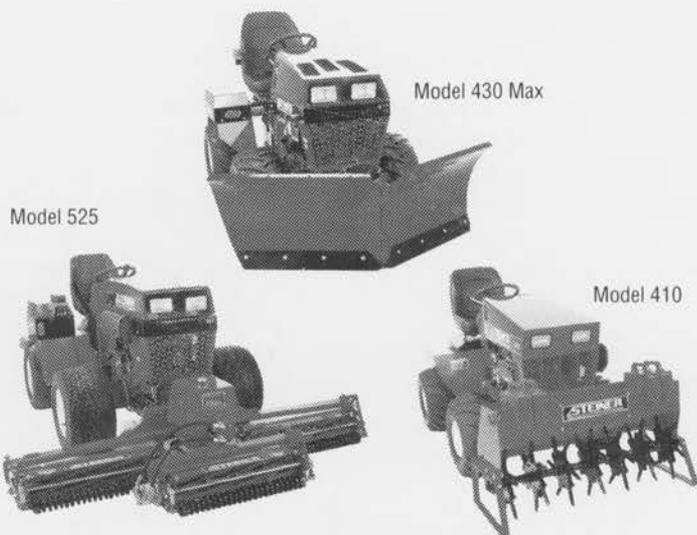
As we begin to commit the 1997 golf season to the history books and the continuing battle with fall's dropping leaves continues, it's time to put the Michigan irrigation systems to bed for a long winter's nap. I typically find that the last couple of weeks during October are the best time for system winterization in this region. It's not unusual to need a light irrigation during the middle of October. Watch the five-day forecast and use this to guide your winterization planning. When I speak of winterization, it refers to compressed air winterization. Gravity drained systems are becoming rare due to the complexity of proper installation and improved compressed air techniques.

Efficient winterization always begins behind your desk with what is hopefully a comprehensive as-built drawing. Prior to actual field work, formulate a winterization plan accounting for layout of the irrigation system, elevation changes within the golf course, and experience from previous seasons. Write down your plan and reference it after the winterization process and again after spring start-up. Since every irrigation system is unique, every golf courses's strategy will be different. If you record useful tricks from previous seasons and note problem areas from past start-ups, each successive winterization will be more effective. Your successor will be most grateful as well.

- As part of the winterization plan, locate and note gate valves which can isolate loops. Close the valves on loop ends to provide separate legs and prevent water from running around loops.
- Start winterization close to the air source and work out as water is purged. Limit pressure from the compressor to less than the normal system operating pressure of the system. Purge high areas on the golf course first and do low areas last.
- After completion of system winterization, check low areas and purge any remaining water. Note areas in the spring in which pipes are broken. If this is a continuing problem, take extra effort in those areas next fall.
- Don't forget that hydraulic control line for those hydraulically controlled systems. Use a similar strategy to purge the hydraulic lines.
- Keep in mind that compressed air, when released into the irrigation system, generates heat. The hot air will warm the pipes near the connection point. Connect only to metal pipe in the system such as the "Z" pipe from the pump station. This will allow the heat to dissipate before entering plastic pipe within the system. Plastic pipes loose strength when heated and can more readily be damaged when hot.
- Use a size of compressor which is adequate for the job and avoid winterization which is too quick. The piping system can be subject to excessive water hammer if too many heads are winterized at the same time. Do not turn on any more heads in one area than would be operating under a normal irrigation cycle.
- Avoid excessive operation of heads with compressed air. Once water is purged from individual sprinklers, move on the next sprinkler as soon as possible. Sprinkler heads are not designed to operate with compressed air and excessive operation with air will reduce the sprinkler life.
- I generally recommend a heated pump house to prevent extreme temperatures on pump station components and associated electrical components. A pump house temperature maintained at 35 to 40 degrees will not require excessive amounts of power and will likely extend the life of your irrigation pumping system. This does not mean however that you should not winterize your pump system. Winter power failures are common and it is likely that temperatures will fall below freezing at some point during the winter.
- The late fall is a perfect time to service your pump station. The following are a few items which may need attention:
  - 1) Clean and perform the routine maintenance on your control valves.
  - 2) Inspect suction and intake lines, clean and service foot valves or lake strainers.
  - 3) Grease pump station motors. Remove grease relief ports and displace all the old grease with an injection of new grease. Take care not to over-grease motors. Excess grease tends to build on the motors windings and reduces motor life.
  - 4) Check screens on motors and plug holes in electrical panels. Mice like to build nests in these cozy environments.

• The fall and winter are an opportune times to refine central computer watering programs and brush up on new computer control features. In most cases, superintendents only use a small portion of their computer controller's capabilities. Spend a few days reading your manual or exploring features on your computer program. You can also spend time checking the input data to insure the computer is closely matched with the irrigation system. Undoubtedly you will discover some tools or features which will help you irrigate more efficiently next season.

With a well conceived and executed winterization strategy, both you and your irrigation system will sleep well through the winter and awaken to a bright spring with a minimum of winter damage.

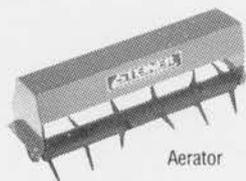


## Versatility on wheels

A turf tractor is only as good as the tools you can attach to it. Thanks to Quick-Hitch, Steiner turf tractors are the best in their field. With it's many and varied attachments, a



Steiner becomes anything you want it to be in five minutes or less. You can mow, move dirt and snow, edge, blow, chip, aerate and more.



And behind Quick-Hitch, you'll find the only turf tractor with constant four-wheel drive, smooth power steering and our unique articulated frame. All backed by the Steiner reputation for reliability. For versatility on wheels, see your authorized Steiner dealer today.

Financing available through  
Dealers Credit, Inc.  
(800) 735-1903

**THE STEINER**  
A TURF TRACTOR WITH A DIFFERENT TWIST

**STEINER**

**INDUSTRIAL VEHICLE SALES, INC.**

361 S. Saginaw  
Pontiac, MI 48341

(248) 338-1590 Fax (248) 338-4604



# NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT

## SOME THOUGHTS ON TURF FEEDING

by William Byrnes, President - Florantine Products Group

Allow me to begin by unapologetically professing my considerable respect for superintendents. Their job requirements - from corporate executive to computer jockey to mechanical wizard to chemist to Personnel manager to financial planner to plant pathologist to janitor to public relations officer to regulatory expert to landscape architect to agronomist, ad (seemingly) infinitum - are overwhelming. So much so that it is a wonder that there is any time to focus on "keeping the green," which by itself is a full time job demanding the knowledge of an accomplished scientist and the vision and creativity of an artist.

That said, and at the risk of being too simplistic, I suggest that the superintendent's (and, incidentally, my) job ultimately boils down to growing green, healthy, consistent grass. I suggest that 90% (or better) of success in this endeavor will depend on how well the superintendent provides appropriate nutrients, air, and moisture to the turf in conjunction with the fickleness of Mother Nature and the demands and adverse impact of golfers and some of our management practices.

### THE NUTRIENTS

We are all taught about the sixteen or seventeen nutrients required to sustain well functioning plants ("C Hopkins Cafe managed by my cousin Mo the clown," as I recall). Nevertheless, as we go along in our careers, management emphasis seems to center to a large extent on providing seasonal nitrogen, potassium, and iron, with perhaps, a little phosphorous, some calcium and magnesium, to achieve growth and color. Typically, these are applied in granular and/or liquid form based on a combination of the superintendent's visual observation, past practices and the recommendations of universities and/or commercial sources (vendors, laboratories).

If we follow this pattern, we have proactively addressed six nutrients. We tend to rely on known or unknown (depending on whether we have a reliable, complete soil report) soil reserves or the incidental micronutrient content in our N-P-K granulars for the ten or so other foodstuffs.

What's wrong with this approach? Maybe nothing. It might seem to get the job done quite well:

- If there is a healthy root system
- If there is adequate organic activity
- If there is a reasonably well balanced soil chemistry
- If temperatures are favorable
- If there is not significant stress (environmental, chemical, mechanical)
- If the soil is not overly compacted/layered or does not leach excessively.
- If the plants' internal chemistry is operating efficiently.

*And so on.*

It might get the job done anyway. Grasses, like other creatures, are drowsily made. Still, we know maintaining greens is a pretty good definition of living on the edge. Our margins of life and death, good and poor quality are small, and Murphy's Law is always in play. So let's take a look at a single nutrient, iron, as it existed on a Western Pennsylvania green this spring to see how our plans might run awry.

The soil report indicated over twice the iron content required for good soil chemistry at a CEC of around ten. The pH was 6.5, which would indicate reasonably good availability of iron (and other nutrients). Something else must be going on or the plant would have used the nutrient. Well, organic matter, phosphorous, zinc, and copper were high, all of which will tie up iron. Potassium was low which also will restrict Fe availability. Additionally, excessive iron levels adversely affect plant usability of many of the mentioned nutrients as well as manganese.

With only a cursory look at a soil report, we have now identified likely shortfalls in six nutrients which are key players in many plant functions and absolute requirements for chlorophyll production and cell division. Invoking Murphy's Law, the deficiencies in the turf probably will occur when we need the nutrients most, say on a 90 degree, 80% humidity day with the Member-Guest at hand or as we head for winter and need to enhance cold tolerance. Or maybe we find, as I did on a Virginia course with similar soil conditions, the greens held color for shorter periods of time despite regular iron applications and high levels of Zn and Mn. When the Virginia superintendent provided adequate amounts of the tied up

nutrients to the plant, his color held much longer, demonstrating that science can work in the field as well as in the laboratory.

THE LESSON: *Nutrients in the soil are of no consequence to the plant unless they are available.*

### NUTRIENT APPLICATION METHODS

There are methods and materials for correcting dysfunctional soil chemistry and physicality (and it is these two that encourage or discourage healthy microbial populations). In fact, properly employed and combined with a little patience, these methods and materials usually can negate a perceived need to rebuild greens. That is another subject, however.

We have discovered some potentially pressing problems. How are we to get the required nutrients to the turf so those problems do not result in turf loss?

Continuing with our limited look at the Western Pennsylvania course, we can obviously apply more granular or liquid P, K, Fe, Cu, Zn, and Mn. We can usually count on such practices to supply some nutrients, but they will also lead to more tie up. If we use chelated micronutrients, they will stay available longer, but what is not used or leached in the first two to three weeks will suffer a similar fate when the chelating agent erodes.

Or we can feed the plant intravenously through foliar applications. This method has been utilized for over forty years by progressive farmers and is increasingly practiced on golf courses because of its effectiveness.

Things to keep in mind if you go the foliar route, however, include the digestibility and leaf burning potential of the nutrient compound (sulfates are particularly usable; chlorides aren't healthy) and buffering agent (complexes are better than chelates, which are better than no buffering agent). Finally, be aware that any nutrient taken in by the plant will be used or expended within 7-18 days after intake, depending on climactic conditions, so the feeding process is ongoing.

In passing, please note that fertigation is *not* foliar feeding.

### NUTRIENT APPLICATION TIMING

In addition to recognizing the life cycle of nutrients in the plant, remember that the turf will do best when it has all of the required nutrients in the right amounts on a linear (consistent) basis. By providing a linear, appropriate supply of nutrients (and air and moisture), we will promote even, consistent growth and color.

Of course, what comes to mind when we say "linear" is a straight line, implying that if we keep our inputs the same at all times we will always have the same growth habit and rate. Unfortunately, it is not that simple. The grasses we manage like to (and should) grow more under some conditions than others, and too much (or the wrong kind of growth under non-conducive circumstances can be downright dangerous to the turf's well being.

For example, we need a pretty good shot of P when it is time to initiate roots on Poa and bent, but much less at other times. Similarly, as temperatures rise above ideal growth ranges, the two grasses' calcium and micronutrient requirements increase, and reductions in nitrogen metabolism are decidedly healthy.

Of course nitrogen management for cool season grasses is also its own separate subject; I will only offer the following as food for thought:

- While N is an absolute requirement, it is also a killer.
- If the other nutrients are properly supplied, we don't need much N.
- There is usually more N availability than we believe there is; tissue and soluble paste soil testing are excellent tools to determine where our N really is.
- Be in control of N availability and be lean when summer arrives.

In summary, whether we choose to supply nutrients through the soil, the leaves, or a combination of the two, it will serve us well to remember that either too much or too little of any element can impair turf health and/or soil functioning. Somehow we must strive to insure a linear, appropriate diet of all the essential plant foods. And we must remember what we desire the turf to do with a knowledge of what it is capable of doing under any given conditions.

Preventative health care through intelligent nutrient management makes sense. The very best problem is the one that does not happen, and good nutritional practices can prevent turf loss.

# Heritage Award Essay

In 1996 GDGCSA initiated the Heritage Award to recognize individuals in non-turf related post graduate secondary education, whose parents are members of our association. The recipients are selected on the basis of an essay. This year's participant's essays were based on their response to the following question: **Describe your own perceptions of the role of golf in American society today, and how your life has been impacted by your parents' involvement with this industry.** Award winners for 1996 were: Alison Dushane, daughter of Kevin Dushane; Elizabeth Edgerton, daughter of Mike Edgerton; Jetti Fields, daughter of Don Fields; Kerry Skaife, daughter of John Skaife. One of the winning essays will run in each issue of *A Patch of Green*. Applications for 1997's award will be available from Kate Mason after August 15th. If you have questions about the Heritage Award, contact Awards Chairman Rick Murphy, CGCS.

## An American Tradition

by Kerry Skaife

I remember being five or six years old and going to Summerset Country Club. My parents both worked there, and my sister and I spent time there often. I can recall going with my dad in his utility cart to turn the sprinklers on in the summer. I also remember golfing with my parents and being most concerned about washing my ball. Yet, as I have gotten older, I have found other things to appreciate about the game of golf.

Golf is different from other sports in that all ages and skill levels can participate. It can be played for competition or for pure enjoyment. It has always been something that allowed my family to spend time together without worrying about the hassles of everyday life. When out on a golf course I feel as if in another world, everything is silent and peaceful. The situation that seemed stressful earlier is a distant memory.

Unlike other games, while playing golf I have never been concerned about winning. I simply enjoyed the experience. Many people I know believe golf to be a very boring activity, yet in actuality, it is relaxing. It may not have play-by-play action or cheerleaders and halftime shows, but after giving it a try a person realizes that none of that is needed.

Engaging in a round of golf is a great judge of character. It is hard to hide your true identity while golfing. The sport reveals so much about your persona that might not be revealed in any other setting. I have seen clubs thrown, broken and beat into the ground by frustrated players. This quality would most likely not be noticed at a dinner meeting. On the other hand, I have golfed with people that, when frustrated, have the ability to simply laugh at themselves.

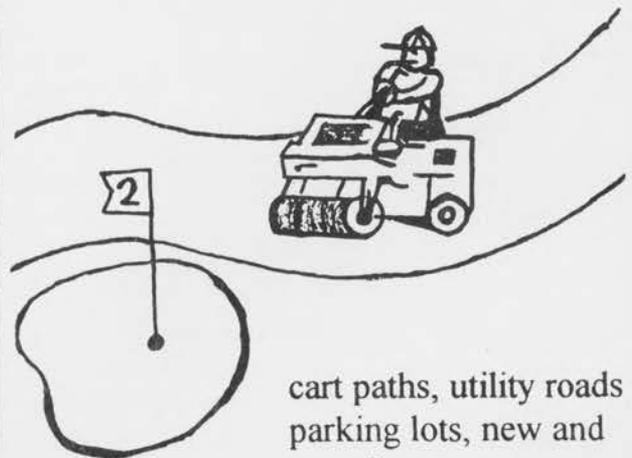
Another reason golf is important to this country is it's environmental significance. Alone, a golf course is a beautiful sight. But what I feel many Americans fail to realize is how valuable our courses are. Personally, I would much rather live next to a golf course than a factory or mall. Golf courses don't just disappear either. I can think of hundreds of clubs that have been around for years, and the industry is still growing. Golf Courses

preserve the land and decrease the threat of future development.

Besides just putting clothes on my back, the golfing industry has affected my life. I appreciate it more than any other sport. Its tradition and grace alone is something I admire. Golfers themselves are quite a crazy bunch. But all in all, I will think of it as something that not only was a part of my childhood, but also something that affects me as an adult.



### S & F CONSTRUCTION INC. *golf course specialists*

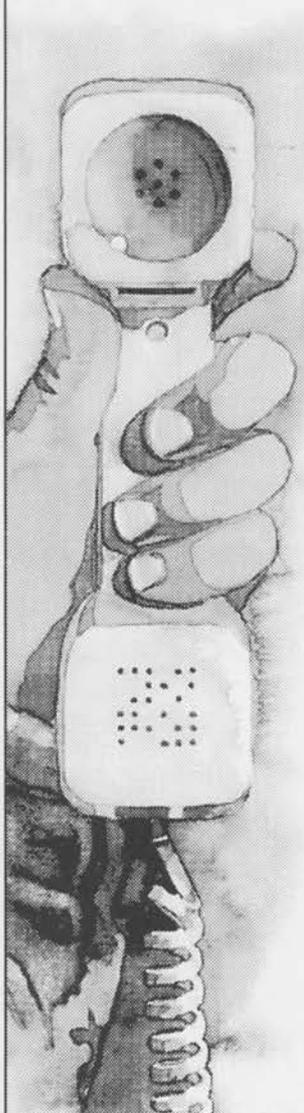


cart paths, utility roads  
parking lots, new and  
resurface.  
seamless patching, curb work, lightweight  
equipment and flexible working  
arrangements with staff etc.

(810) 752-4889

(810) 752-2401

# Talk to Terra for the Right Products, Advice and Services for Turf.



Terra is your single source for plant protection products, fertilizers, micronutrients, turfseed and so much more. Call us for the right products and the technical support and agronomic advice you can count on.



Terra Industries Inc.  
Sue Shockey, Agronomist  
Professional Products  
3847 Long Meadow Lane  
Orion, Michigan 48359  
Office: (248) 393-2571  
FAX: (248) 393-2572  
Pager: (810) 402-2907

## Enjoy Puerto Vallarta While Earning 1.2 Credits

The Professional Golfers' Sport Psychology Program is going to Puerto Vallarta, Mexico! Researched with PGA members, this two day school has just opened to certified golf course superintendents. 1.2 CEUs have been approved by the GCSAA for credits toward certification renewal requirements only.

Classes will be held from 7:30 AM - 2:30 PM on December 10-11, 1997. Reduced rates of \$90/dbl (if reserved by October 27th) are available at the Marriott CasaMagna resort. Enjoy golf and diving in your free time. Call (800) 228-9290 for accommodations, The two day school is taught by Dr. Natalie Newton. The fee for GCSAA certified members is \$300. To register, please call (609) 463-1997 ext. 1 or fax (409) 463-1010. PGSP is designed to improve play ability and enhance communication and management skills.

Bring along the pro! PGA members attending the school are certified as PGSP instructors. The cost for PGA members, including certification in PGSP and a teaching handbook, is \$375. This school is approved for 13 PDP for PGA members.



**ENVIRONMENTAL  
STEWARDSHIP AWARD**

## Consider yourself a candidate.

Applications for the 1998 Environmental Steward Awards are available from the August issue of *Golf Course Management*, GCSAA Online ([www.gcsaa.org](http://www.gcsaa.org)), affiliate chapter presidents, program sponsors and the GCSAA service center (800/472-7878).

*We'll look forward to receiving your application by October 31, 1997.*

 NOVARTIS

 PURSELL

 RAIN BIRD

 JACOBSEN  
TEXTRON



A partnership program benefiting  
The GCSAA Foundation

The Board of Directors usually meets the last Monday or Tuesday of every month. If you have any concerns you wish shared with them, contact: President Paul Dushane at (248) 855-9716 or Vendor Liaison John Skaife at (248) 698-2358

**Board Meeting  
Knollwood Country Club  
Monday, July 28, 1997**

**Finance (Szyndlar)**

As of 6/30/97: Assn Checking - \$1,543.56  
Savings - \$18,884.73  
Foundation checking - \$937.41  
Savings - \$4,407.83

**Membership (Mack)**

Membership 442. Applications approved - 1  
Class Change - 1

**Editorial (Dorner)**

*Patch of Green* - July/August issue to be mailed Aug. 1

**Education (Murphy/Jones)**

July meeting - Hawk Hollow, Bath. Good meeting. Speaker: Joe Vargas. Attendance: 100. Rained out after nine holes. E.S. is now handling check-in. September 22nd Mtg - Will be held at The Wyndgate. Annual Business Meeting. Anticipate large attendance. Committee working on next years' meeting schedule.

**Hospitality Room (Jones)**

1998/Anaheim - Will be held for 2 1/2 days. The 1/2 day being the evening of the Opening Session. Combined Assn. committee will be soliciting Vendors. Some vendor members have already agreed to make large donations to enable the Committee to upgrade the quality of the room. Each Assn. will solicit all members. Portion of dues statement will allow members to donate now instead of at the room door.

**Special Olympics (Hock/Thommes)**

TV & VCR purchased and delivered to Flint Group Home.

**Awards (Murphy)**

Heritage Award application to be available to membership by August 10.

**Clothing (Murphy)**

Received clothing samples from GCSAA. Will be made available at picnic.

**Golf Day (McKinley)**

Sites: Bay Pointe, Birmingham, Edgewood, Orchard Lake, Plum Hollow. Committee had

first meeting. Limit 100 golfers per course. Mandatory soft spikes at all courses. Flyers will be inserted into Mid-Summer issue of *A Patch of Green*. Additional mailing to go out Sept. 1.

**Dues Statement (Dushane)**

Statement will include option to make Christmas Party reservations and Hospitality Room donations. To be mailed 8/15.



**Commercial Turf Services**

*Contract Aerification Includes:*

- Soil Reliever Aerifier
- Terra Topper Top Dresser
- Terra Power Broom

***Schedule your appointment early!***

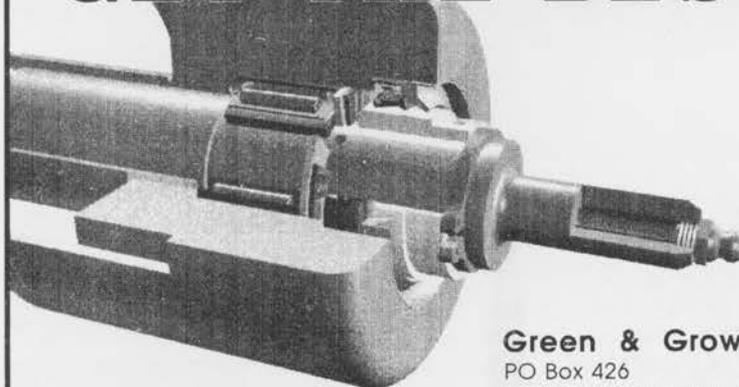
**1-800-231-LAWN (5296)**

**1-248-858-7700**

**FAX 1-248-338-0429**

**RETROFIT ROLLERS?**

**GET THE BEST!**



**DOUGLAS  
PRODUCTS**

**Green & Grow Inc**

PO Box 426

Sterling Heights MI 48310

Phone 810-979-3222

**Board Meeting  
Knollwood Country Club  
Monday, August 25, 1997**

**Finance (Szyndlar)**

As of 7/31/97: Assn Checking - \$1,324.93  
Savings - \$17,383.49  
Foundation Checking - \$933.01  
Savings - \$4,517.32

**Membership (Hock)**

Membership: 443. Applications approved - 4  
Class changes approved - 2

**Editorial (Dorner)**

Deadline for fall issue is Friday, August 29.  
Winter issue will contain Vendor Resource  
information and Convention information.

**Education (Murphy/Jones)**

Discussion about meeting attendance and by-  
law requirement (Members must attend  
minimum of two meetings per year.)  
Requirement will be posted on all meeting  
flyers, mentioned at meetings and President will  
discuss in his message in the next magazine  
issue.

October 27 meeting - Site: Novi Hilton. Format:  
All day education. Article to appear in fall issue.

**Awards (Murphy)**

Heritage Award applications available. Deadline  
Oct. 31. No requests for applications as yet.

**Clothing (Murphy)**

No clothing sold. Board will purchase inventory  
to be used at various events.

**Picnic (Thommes)**

Attendance: 66. Enjoyable site..The Zoo. Board  
recommendation- Hold picnic at an event site  
(Zoo, Air Show, etc.) every other year.

**Dues**

Statement mailed out 8/15. Approx. \$3,000  
received. Second and final notice to go out  
Sept. 15.

**Credit Card Service to Members**

According to the Survey, 82% of the  
membership is interested in using a credit card  
to pay for dues and meetings. 61% of those  
using cards are willing to pay the necessary  
extra charges to use that service. The Board  
opted to wait until the '98 budget is evaluated  
and to then determine the implementation of  
such a program.

**Annual Meeting (Dushane)**

Nominees:  
President - Paul Kolbe  
V.P. - Roy Szyndlar  
Sec/Treas - Mark McKinley  
Directors - Ron Abbott, Pat O'Brien Tom Schall

Absentee Ballots and nominee bios mailed with  
meeting notice on August 23. Bios will be  
included in magazine next year. Meeting date is  
earlier than in the past and info did not get in  
magazine this year.

**Web Site for GDGCSA**

Being considered. Greater Detroit is on line.  
E-Mail address: gdgcsa@aol.com.

**AMERICAN MARINE**  
SHORE CONTROL

BRIDGES • DAMS • BOARDWALKS  
SEAWALLS - Steel • Wood  
PVC C LOC  
Boulders

Complete Jobs or Products Only  
FREE QUOTES - (248) 887-7855

**Deep Aerification Service**

Floyd McKay Deep Drill

Southern Green Deep Tine Soil Reliever



**GREAT GREENS OF AMERICA INC.**

682 S. RENAUD • GROSSE POINTE WOODS, MI 48236

**1-800-942-5650**

# New Member Roster

## OSBURN Industries



**CUSTOM TOP DRESSING BLENDS**  
**CUSTOM CONSTRUCTION BLENDS**

Trap Sand ----- Best 530 • Best 535

Cart Path Stone & Slag • Pea Pebble • Parking Lot Stone

**Call for Details (313) 292-4140** (Ask for Tim)

**COOK, STEVE CGCS**  
 (ROBIN)  
 CLASS AN  
 Oakland Hills Country Club  
 3895 W. Maple Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301  
 0-(248) 433-0679  
 FAX(248) 644-8678

**ROBERTS, JIM**  
 (TERESA)  
 CLASS CN  
 Grosse Ile Golf & Country Club  
 9339 Bellevue  
 Grosse Ile, MI 48138  
 0-(313) 676-3347  
 FAX(313) 676-6054

**STACHLEWITZ, RUSSELL**  
 CLASS CN  
 Lochmoor Club  
 25930 Union Lake Rd. #127  
 Harrison Twp, MI 48045  
 H-(810) 792-0276  
 0-(313) 881-4212

50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
**The Andersons**  
 1947-1997

**Tee Time®**



- **Greens and Fairway Grade Fertilizers with Nutralene**
- **Quality Sulfur Coated Urea Fertilizers**
- **Combination Products**
- **Granular Insecticides and Fungicides**



**Distributed by:**

**TURFGRASS, INC.**  
 P.O. Box 667  
 28064 Pontiac Trail  
 S. Lyon, MI 48178

Call Toll Free:  
 1-800-521-8873 or  
 (248) 437-1427 (Call Collect)



Lights!  
Camera!  
Action!



Coming soon to Anaheim, Calif., the 69th International Golf Course Conference and Show will be held in the Anaheim Convention Center. Don't miss this action-packed week of educational opportunities, the newest golf course products and services, and the chance to network with fellow professionals.

**Educational Seminars**

Monday through Thursday, Feb. 2-5  
and Saturday, Feb. 7

**Trade Show**

Friday through Sunday, Feb. 6-8

**Distributor Preview Hour**

Friday, Feb. 6

**Educational Sessions & Forums**

Thursday through Sunday, Feb. 5-8

**GCSAA Golf Championship**

Saturday, Jan. 31, Practice Round  
Sunday, Feb. 1, Four Ball Championship  
Monday and Tuesday, Feb. 2-3,  
Championship



1421 Research Park Drive  
Lawrence, KS • 66049-3859  
800/472-7878 • www.gcsaa.org



HORACE H. GODWIN

**Owned, Developed  
Local Golf Courses**

Horace H. Godwin, owner of Salem Hills Golf Course, died Sunday, Sept. 7, 1997 of cancer at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Superior Township. He was 78.

Mr. Godwin, of South Lyon, owned and developed Salem Hills and Godwin golf courses, but in 1987 sold the Godwin golf course. It is now Walnut Creek Country Club.

He was a member of the Greater Detroit Golf Course Superintendents Association, Shriners and Detroit Commandery, #1 Knights Templar.

Mr. Godwin is survived by his wife, Helen; a son, Frank; two sisters, Priscilla Reed and Ruth Goellner; and three grandchildren.

Services were held at Redford Avenue Presbyterian Church, followed by burial at Fairview Cemetary in Brighton.

Memorials may be made to Redford Avenue Presbyterian Church, 22122 W. McNichols, Detroit, Michigan, 48219.

**HUGGETT  
SOD FARM, INC.**

**TOP QUALITY SOD**

- **PENNCROSS** or **PENNLINKS** or **PROVIDENCE BENT**  
(Grown on mason sand or loam soil).
- **SHADE MIX** (Bluegrass, Fescue mix for fairways & erosion control.) - Good on Sandy Soils or in Shade.
- **NUGGET + II** (Bluegrass Blend) - Grade A or Commercial Peat or Top Soil Base.

**SOIL FREE SOD AVAILABLE**

**The Nifty Fifty Big Roll.**

- Less Labor
- Easy Laying
- Less Seams

**50 Yds**

CALL TODAY FOR DETAILS!

**BULK SPHAGNUM PEAT FOR GREENS MIX**

**DELIVERY**  
Michigan - Ohio  
Indiana

**SHADE & ORNAMENTAL TREES**

4114 East Marlette Rd. ♦ Marlette, MI 48453

**Ph: (800) 432-2763 / Fax: (517) 635-7484**



**Turf Chemicals Inc.**

1011 E. Main  
P.O. Box 451  
Owosso, Michigan 48867  
Phone: (517) 725-7145

FOR ALL OF YOUR FERTILIZER,  
CHEMICAL AND GRASS SEED NEEDS

EXPERIENCED, DEPENDABLE  
PEOPLE TO SERVE YOU

- Russ Hancock
- Jay Siddock
- Fred Miller
- Wes Riddle
- Ted Kasel
- Mike Horvath

## John Stewart Joins Benham Chemical Staff

Benham Chemical Corporation, a major Turf and Ornamental Distributor within the states of Michigan and Ohio has improved their staff by hiring John Stewart as administrative assistant. Benham Chemical is pleased to have John in the office in Farmington Hills to help with customer service and marketing. He graduated from Michigan State with a degree in Crop and Soil Science. Before coming to Benham Chemical John spent time as an assistant golf course superintendent throughout the Detroit area. John is looking forward to meeting all of you and answering your questions whenever possible. As the turf and ornamental industry grows Benham Chemical plans to grow with it.

### NEW SNOW MOLD CONTROL

#### LF II 14-2-12 w/ PCNB

A premium, homogenous granular fertilizer containing isobutylidene diurea and impregnated with PCNB fungicide in 40 lbs. bags

#### The LF II Advantages:

- ◆ Provides excellent control of pink and gray snow mold.
- ◆ Delivers as much as five times the amount of potash in sulfate form as similar products.
- ◆ 24% more product distribution along with an homogenous greens grade fertilizer.
- ◆ Dual action controlled-release nitrogen available through isobutylidene diurea as well as methylene urea.
- ◆ Easily spread through a rotary spreader unlike other granular control products.
- ◆ For use on all cool-season grasses

Contact Your  
**Benham Chemical Corporation**  
Sales Representative  
Today For All Of Your  
Snow Mold Control Needs!  
**1-800-482-6520**

### The Greater Detroit GCSA and GCSAA present Wetlands and Golf Courses

Novi, Michigan  
Novi Hilton  
Tuesday  
November 11, 1997  
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Member cost: \$110; Non-member: \$165  
Continuing Education Units: 0.7



For more information  
or to register,  
contact  
1/800-472-7878

### Michigan Turf Foundation Research

One of the most important functions of the Michigan Turf Foundation is the funding of research at Michigan State University. Each professor prepares a research request which is submitted to the MTF chairman. The chairman then selects a committee made up of MTF members from two or more turfgrass interest groups. These interest groups include: Golf, Sports Turf, Lawn Care, Cemetery, Parks, and Sod. The research request is then reviewed by the committee to assure it is best serving our industries. Please volunteer to serve on a research committee! Your total time commitment is approximately 1/2 a day. You can volunteer by calling:

Kay Patrick	MTF	(517) 321-1660
Jerry Grossi	Chairman	(517) 882-1826
Dan Banks	Co-Chairman	(248) 474-7474

# GREATER DETROIT GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 173

TROY, MI 48099

(248) 362-1108

FAX(248) 362-1736

## APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

I hereby apply for membership in the  
Greater Detroit Golf Course Superintendents Association,  
which is an affiliate Chapter of the  
Golf Course Superintendents Association of America

TITLE <small>(CIRCLE ONE)</small>	FIRST NAME	INITIAL	LAST NAME
Mr. Ms. Dr.			
HOME ADDRESS		SPOUSE	
CITY	STATE	ZIP	
BUSINESS/CLUB			
BUS. ADDRESS			
CITY	STATE	ZIP	
PREFERRED MAILING ADDRESS <small>(CIRCLE ONE)</small>		HOME OFFICE	E-mail:
HomePH( )	Ofc PH( )	Fax( )	
Are you a member of GCSAA?	Member #	Hdcp	

### *PRESENT POSITION*

TITLE OF CURRENT POSITION	Are you a CGCS(cert. supt.)?
STARTING DATE OF CURRENT POSITION	

### *PAST POSITIONS HELD*

From/To	Position	Place of Employment	City/State

Each application must be signed (attested) by two voting members (SUPERINTENDENTS) of GDGCSA, who certify as to the reliability of the applicants information as stated above.

ATTESTOR	DATE
ATTESTOR	DATE

If accepted, I hereby certify that I will observe the constitution and by laws of the  
Greater Detroit Golf Course Superintendents Association  
and the Code of Ethics of the  
Golf Course Superintendents Association of America.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT	DATE
------------------------	------

*Do not include a check with this application.*

### *FOR GDGCSA USE ONLY*

DATE APP REC'D:	DATE APPROVED:
AMT. DUE:	DATE PD:                      CHECK NO:
CLASS:	MEMBERSHIP NO:
SIGNATURE (MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN)	

Dear Prospective Superintendent Member,

Thank you for your interest in our organization. Greater Detroit Golf Course Superintendents Association is an organization whose objective is the betterment of our profession through education. We would encourage you to become a member of GDGCSA.

**Note: As of July 1, 1997, it is required that all NEW A & B (Superintendent) Members also be members of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, of which Greater Detroit is an affiliate.**

**If you are already a GCSAA member, please do the following:**

1. Complete the enclosed Greater Detroit application.
2. Return to GDGCSA, P.O. Box 173, Troy, MI 48099.
3. Do not include a check. You will be invoiced upon approval by the local Board of Directors for \$75.
4. We will confirm your membership with GCSAA (please include your GCSAA number).
5. Upon payment of local dues you will be an official member and will be requested to attend at least two meetings per year as set forth in our by-laws. At the first meeting, you will be introduced to the membership and presented a Membership Package, which includes a Directory, Certificate and card.

**If you are not a member of GCSAA, also enclose the following:**

1. Completed GCSAA application and dues of \$250 (call for application at (248) 362-1108).
2. When local dues are paid, we will forward GCSAA application and check.

Thank you for your consideration

Sincerely,

Ed Hock, Jr.  
Walnut Creek C.C., Supt.  
Membership Chairman



**CHANGING THE FACE OF CONSTRUCTION**

**TURF DRAIN INC. BUNKER RECONSTRUCTION**



**TURF  
DRAIN RENOVIATION DIVISION  
INC.**

**Michigan (248) 471-6750**

## Greater Detroit GCSA 1997 Calendar

October 6	"The Big Event"	Bay Pointe G.C. Birmingham C.C. Edgewood C.C. Orchard Lake C.C. Plum Hollow G.C.
October 27	Fall Management Meeting	Novi Hilton
Nov. 11	GCSAA Regional Seminar Wetlands and Golf Courses	Novi Hilton
Dec. 9	Superintendents Only	Birmingham CC
Dec. 13	Annual Christmas Party	Walnut Creek C.C.

## Northern Michigan Turf Managers Association 1997 Meeting Schedule

October 8th Mistwood - Traverse City

## Western Michigan GCSA 1997 Calendar

Oct. 6	The Moors (Annual Meeting)
Nov. 1	PohlCat (Fall Party)



**Landscape Supply Inc.**  
24300 Brest Road  
Taylor, Michigan 48180  
Phone: (313) 946-7000  
Fax: (313) 946-7037  
**STEPHEN ALFORD**

**GOLF COURSE SPECIALIST**

Michigan's Largest Rental Fleet

**ais RENTAL Corp.** wants your business

**Meeting Your Rental Needs**

DAILY WEEKLY & MONTHLY RENTALS

<b>Mon-Thur 6am-10pm</b>		
<b>Fri 6am-6pm, Sat 8am-4pm</b>		
GRAND RAPIDS (616) 538-2400	LANSING (517) 321-8000	
W. DETROIT (248) 437-8121	N.E. DETROIT (810) 727-7502	
TRAVERSE CITY (616) 267-5060	SAGINAW (517) 777-0090	
After-hours Pager & Message Center: <b>1-800-AIS-NITE</b>		

**ANNOUNCING THE NEXT STANDARD IN TURF  
QUALITY AND TANKMIX FLEXIBILITY**



**SEE THE SIGNATURE DIFFERENCE ON YOUR TURF.**

**RHONE-POULENC AG COMPANY**

**BOB DUGAN**

P.O. BOX 74398

Romulus, MI 48174-0398

Tel. (313) 782-0323 Fax (313) 782-6344



# LAYING <sup>THE</sup> GROUNDWORK

FOR  
**50**  
YEARS

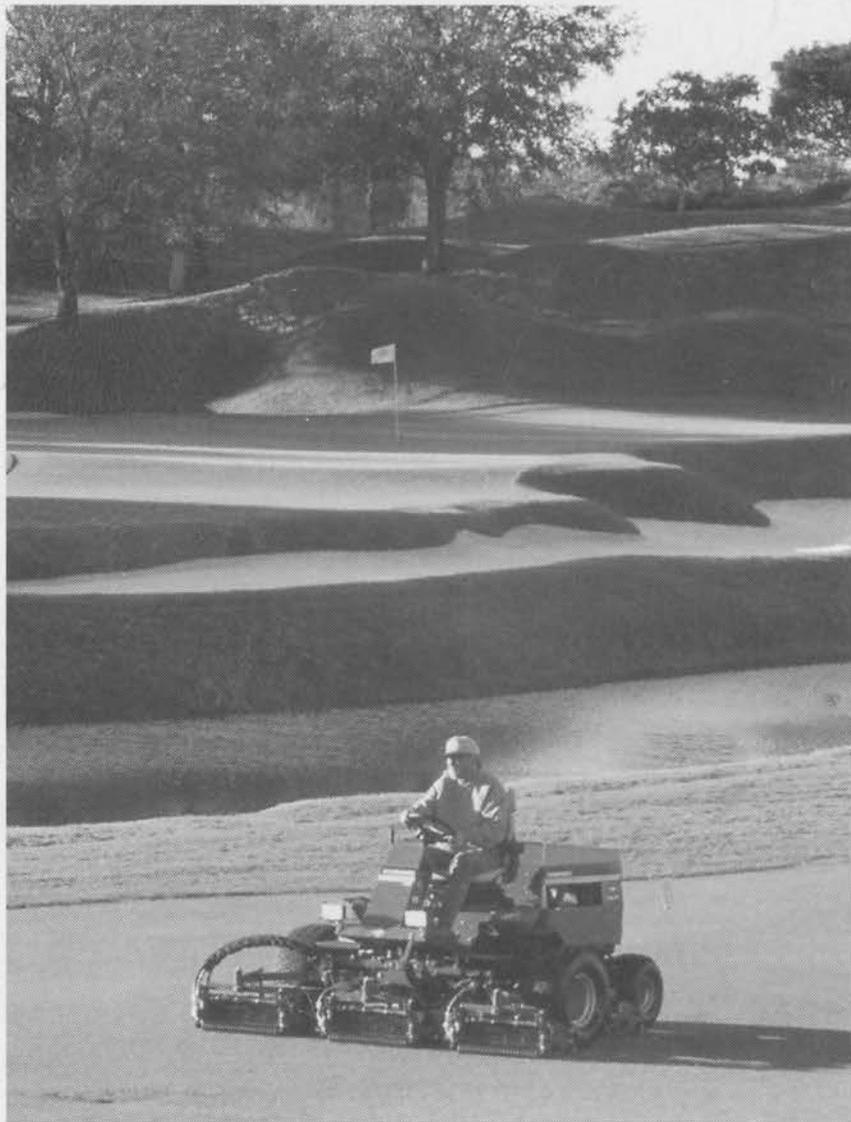
Spartan   
Distributors

487 W. DIVISION STREET ■  
P O BOX 246  
SPARTA, MI 49345  
616.887.7301

1050 OPDYKE ROAD ■  
AUBURN HILLS, MI 48326  
248.373.8800

**800.822.2216** ■

You've had to change  
the way you maintain  
your fairways to reflect  
new, higher standards  
of quality. We know  
your equipment needs to  
be up to the challenge.



**W.F. MILLER CO.**  
 TURF & INDUSTRIAL EQUIPMENT  
 25125 TRANS-X, P.O. BOX 605, NOVI, MI 48376-0605  
 (248) 349-4100 • Fax: (248) 349-0406

Ransomes®

Fairway Mowers.



Today's fairways demand a level of quality that was formerly reserved for greens. To meet these higher standards, superintendents have found a reliable, productive ally in the Ransomes® family of fairway mowers. The T-Plex 185 is perfect for highly visible tees and collars. The 250, 305 and 7-plex 405 are the industry's only "right" weight mowers. The 405 features a wide 156" cutting swath while the new 3500 is a production powerhouse. Ransomes mowers have been designed to maintain the same perfect finish from one side of the fairway to the other. When you start with Ransomes reel mowers, you finish with the best.



**RANSOMES  
 CUSHMAN  
 RYAN**

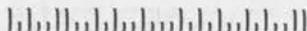
For The Best Results

A PATCH OF GREEN

P.O. Box 173  
 Troy, MI 48099  
 USA

38 14  
 PETE COOKINGHAM  
 MSU MAIN LIBRARY/W212  
 EAST LANSING MI 48824

BULK RATE  
 U.S. POSTAGE  
 PAID  
 PONTIAC  
 MAILING SVC



The Official Publication of the  
 Greater Detroit Golf Course  
 Superintendents Association