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# Turf Times



The newsletter from the Northern Michigan Turf Managers Association

Bi-Monthly Update September/October Volume 32, No. 4 (2003)

## President's Message



When I think of October and November in the golf business, I think of five things; leaf removal, projects, irrigation blow-out, the final spray and high school football. I love the fall season. The pace is a bit slower but we all keep thinking about that first snow that stays on the ground for good. We all work to meet deadlines, this deadline has no date, and we all know it's out there but we just don't know when it's coming.

What is coming is our annual meeting and chapter championship. We have had great attendance during the August and September meetings, lets all get together one more time for a quick meeting and a round of golf at Dave Little's Red Hawk Golf Course. Speaking from experience, the extra drive is worth it. It's a really enjoyable layout with excellent conditions. The agenda for the annual meeting is pretty basic.

We will discuss finances, give quick committee reports and vote on three board member positions; Jim Bluck from Forest Dunes, Paul Emling from Arcadia Bluffs and Steve Shane from Lochenheath are running for board positions. I will also give everyone a briefing on GCSAA business; I attended the delegates meeting in September. Service points (.1) are available.

One week following the Tuck Tate chapter championship will be a mechanics meeting at Treetops Resort. Refer to page 5 or the web site for more information. The week after the mechanics meeting is a GCSAA seminar hosted by the Western Michigan fellows. This is a heck of a deal, check out the seminar insert.

Everyone should have received their dues notice in September for the 2004 season. If you didn't, please contact Kay to get another invoice. The payment of your membership dues is extremely important for the livelihood of this association.

Congratulations to Greg Lyman for accepting a new position with GCSAA! Greg will be the new director of GCSAA's Environmental Institute for Golf. Greg and his family will continue to keep their roots living in Michigan. Thanks for your hard work dealing with all of the state agencies on our industries behalf.

Greg's position with MSU and the Michigan Turfgrass Environmental Stewardship Program are obviously tied together. During a MTESP steering committee meeting, each chapter representative was educated and brought up to date on how his position was funded as well as what some of the future possibilities may be regarding this position. Representatives from the MTF, MDA, DEQ, Department of Agriculture and MSU administration are beginning to discuss the vacancy. The chapter representatives are all writing support letters to have the state agencies continue funding MSU's environmental specialist position.

With a situation like this, I can finally see the need for a statewide group voice from our industry. One large group speaks stronger than four or five smaller groups when it comes to red tape state issues. I think we may

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need to have one voice in the future for issues like water and phosphorus legislation that we all know are coming. I know that my co-chair on the state association committee is falling out of his chair right now, sorry Dan; they pulled me over to the dark side.

Remember, you can sign up for any of our events online at [nmtma.org](http://nmtma.org). I hope to see you at Red Hawk or the mechanics meeting and good luck with your deadline that's hanging out there somewhere.

Steve Hammon  
[steveh@tcgcc.com](mailto:steveh@tcgcc.com)

## Opinion Column

I would like to respond to your recent emailing on GCSAA's new PDI program and have it printed as an editorial in the Newsletter. It has been a long time since I've actively offered my opinion on matters of State, so to speak, but those who remember me from my years in Northern Michigan and as a Past President of our Association know that I don't hold back. I would like to state, however, that this is just an opinion, my opinion, and not that of my employer, the PGA TOUR.

The Professional Development Initiative, or PDI as it is known, has good intentions and was conceived by very well meaning members of GCSAA. Their purpose, as I see it, is to further upgrade the image and credibility of the golf course superintendent by following the lead of the PGA of America's classification system for head professionals. This takes the concept of Certified Golf Course Superintendent and pushes it downward into the ranks of the vast majority of the superintendents in the organization, thus raising the visibility of the profession as a whole rather than the elite. Unfortunately, I think it will backfire unless entry is made more accessible for young, aspiring superintendents who may have elected to get a two year degree in turf management, or who may have other educational backgrounds to go with their practical experience. It will also backfire if the experienced superintendents who do not yet belong to GCSAA and have not previously seen the value in a membership are approached and told that they must complete some years of formal education before they can be validated as qualified superintendents in the profession. Both of these categories of potential GCSAA members will probably opt to remain outside GCSAA membership, and that will be our loss as much as theirs. When I was on the Board of NMTMA, and then President, we made a concerted effort to expand our membership and target the small, low budget golf courses that proliferate in Northern Michigan. This was the old NMTMA and we wanted to make sure we didn't get too fond of ourselves that we forgot our roots and the people that needed our support most. I am very proud that we were successful in these efforts, and many current members were recruited during this period of our history. There was a lot of pressure at that time to exclude members who were not willing to join GCSAA, and to our credit, we resisted that isolationist philosophy. We felt that if we could expose a superintendent or course owner to what this great profession was all about, then they may be more inclined to join and be an active member in GCSAA on their own terms. I see the current trend of the PDI and higher requirements for Class A membership status as reopening that debate, and I am still on the side of inclusion, rather than exclusion, in my philosophy about professional associations. To be truly seen as one brotherhood, we must not alienate those who for their own personal reasons or due to their employment situation choose not, or cannot fulfill the requirements set forth in the membership classification revisions. In my opinion, we are heading down the wrong path.

Jon Scott/PGA TOUR



# For Sale

## **1998 Jacobsen LF 135 Fairway Mower**

Company: Petoskey Bay View C.C.

Description:

LF 135 in excellent shape.

Only 701 hours, have not used the last 2 seasons due to purchase of other mowers. Had to wait for mower to depreciate so ... More on the web @ nmtma.org

Contact: John Mastenbrook

Phone: 231-347-2706

## **Irrigation Materials**

Company: Walloon Lake Country Club

Description:

Due to an irrigation renovation project, we have slightly used irrigation materials available for sale at WLCC. More irrigation materials will become ... More on the web @ nmtma.org

Contact: Daniel Bissonette

Email: dan@upnorth.net

Phone: 231-535-2373

## **Greens Aerifier**

Company: Forest View Golf Course

Description:

This is a Ryan Greensair II, it is in good shape and runs good. We have used it very little, and don't need it anymore. We bought a tractor mounted ....More on the web @ nmtma.org

Contact: Roger Blackford

Email: roger@forestviewgolf.com

Phone: 989-837-8644

## **Olathe 395 roller**

Company: St. Ives & Tullymore

Description:

I am looking for this item. I do not have any for sale. Would like something for parts! Good machines they just do not make them any more. ... More on the web @ nmtma.org

Contact: Alex Greenacre

Email: grassguru2001@yahoo.com

Phone: 231-972-8011

## **Driving Range Bag Racks**

Company: Traverse City Golf & Country Club

Description:

I have eight driving range bag racks for sale. They are painted brown and are in good condition. They fold up nicely for storage. More on the web @ nmtma.org

Contact: Steve Hammon

Email: steveh@tcgcc.com

Phone: 231-947-0487

## **2003 N.M.T.M.A ANNUAL MEETING**

### ***Tuck Tate – Chapter Championship***

Date: Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Where: Red Hawk Golf Course  
East Tawas, MI

Host: Dave Little – Golf Course Superintendent

Reservations: Deadline, October 1, 2003  
Please register on line at [www.nmtma.org](http://www.nmtma.org)  
Any questions, please call Kay at 517-327-5474

Schedule: 9:00 a.m. Check in  
10:00 a.m. Annual Meeting  
11:00 a.m. Shotgun  
Following Golf: Steak Dinner

Prizes for low gross and low net

Cost: \$65.00 - Meeting, golf, dinner, prizes  
\$20.00 - Dinner only

Directions: At the intersection of M-55 and US-23 in Tawas City.  
Follow M-55 west one mile to Wilber Rd.  
Go north on Wilber Rd. five miles to Davison Rd.  
Turn left on Davison and go west ½ mile to the course.  
(Note: Monument Rd. crosses Wilber Rd. at an angle  
and may be somewhat confusing. Wilber Rd. is straight  
and without curves through the above described stretch)

# GCSAA FALL SEMINAR

## MANAGING TURFGRASS DISEASE CONTROL

### Dr. Houston B. Couch

Monday, October 20, 2003  
Egypt Valley Country Club  
Grand Rapids, Michigan  
8:00 AM to 5:00 PM (7:30 arrival)

1 Day Seminar	
Education Points:	0.7
GCSAA Member Fee:	\$85
Non-Member Fee:	\$175

Continental breakfast and buffet lunch provided

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#### *Seminar Description:*

Profiles of basic fungicides, as well as the result of ongoing university research is discussed. The non-target effects of fungicides, strategies for avoiding fungicide resistance, the effects of synergism and antagonism, and control programs for specific diseases of both cool – and warm season grasses are presented. The textbook, Diseases of Turfgrass, Third Edition, is required for this seminar (included in the cost of the seminar and will be handed out at the seminar).

#### *Instructor: Houston B. Couch, Ph.D.*

Dr. Houston Couch's long career includes more than 400 presentations to 121 professional turfgrass organizations and universities in the United States and internationally. He is a professor of plant pathology at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, teaching an undergraduate course on the nature and control of turfgrass diseases. He also conducts research on the chemical control of turfgrass diseases and the effects of various environmental factors on turfgrass disease development.

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Registration form for: **Maximizing Turfgrass Disease Control - October 20, 2003**

Attendee Name: Please print	Phone #	Cost:	\$85 (GCSAA member) \$175 (non-member)
_____			\$ _____
_____			\$ _____
_____			\$ _____
<b>Attendance limited to 1<sup>st</sup> - 125 registrants</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>		<b>\$ _____</b>

Return bottom portion of this sheet with **check payable to WMGCSA** to:

**WMGCSA      8585 Winter Forest      Rockford, MI      49341**

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE OCTOBER 10, 2003**



# Northern Michigan Turf Managers Association Mechanics Meeting Tuesday, October 14, 2003

The NMTMA board members understand how important the mechanic is to every golf course operation. This will be a 1/2 day event. The first meeting will be a basic get together and shop tour at Treetops Resort. Lets get our mechanics together for equipment discussions and a nice lunch. This meeting is sponsored by the NMTMA and will be free of charge.

Date: Tuesday, October 14, 2003  
Location: Treetops North Maintenance Facility - 4787 Winnie Hill Rd., Gaylord, MI  
(Take Wilkinson Rd. past main resort and continue on paved road to four-way stop. Continue north 3.5 miles to north entrance. Turn left into north property and take first paved road on right. Look for signs)  
Time: 9:30 – 1:00 p.m.  
Cost: Free  
Topics: Some of the topics discussed  

- Hydraulic hose maintenance ideas and replacement schedules
- We can share equipment stories and repair techniques
- Treetops maintenance building and shop tour
- Discuss topics and dates for future meetings

  
Deadline: October 13, 2003  
Registration: Please register on line at [www.nmtma.org](http://www.nmtma.org) / Any questions, please call Kay at 517-327-5474

*Do not let your mechanic miss this great event!*

## For Sale cont.

### Goossen Debris Blower

Company: Traverse City Golf & Country Club

Description:

Goossen Debris Blower

BL 2000 , The biggest one made. Excellent condition .Only used on a home lot .More details @ [nmtma.org](http://nmtma.org)

Contact: Mike Teter - Steve Hammon

Email: [miket@teterop.com](mailto:miket@teterop.com)

Phone: 231-342-0970 - 231-947-0487

### Rainbird Eagle 700 series

Company: Eagle Glen Golf Course

Description:

6 new Rainbird eagle 700's

Complete bodies with heads

A little dirty but never used. More on the web @ [nmtma.org](http://nmtma.org)

Contact: Dudley Strauch - George Shephard

Email: [dudleystrauch@yahoo.com](mailto:dudleystrauch@yahoo.com)

Phone: 1(989)588-6599

### Earthsafe Aboveground Fuel Tank

Company: Crystal Downs CC

Description:

'92 dual 500 gallon (1000 gallon capacity) vaulted above-ground fuel tank with two (2) pumps. Used for golf cart fleet, now we have electric carts. More on the web @ [nmtma.org](http://nmtma.org)

Contact: Michael Morris

Email: [mmorris@crystaldowns.org](mailto:mmorris@crystaldowns.org)

Phone: 231-352-4241

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

**\*IRRIGATION\***

**John Deere One Source**  
One Source for All Your Golf Needs  
(800) 642-3706 / (231) 632-3337

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**Huggett Sod Farm, Inc.**  
Bent & Bluegrass Sod, Shade & Ornamental Trees  
(989) 635-7482

**Beck Sod Farm, Inc.**  
David Beck  
(989) 864-3549 / (800) 968-2325

**Great Lakes Bentgrass**  
Finest Quality Sand Grown Sod  
(734) 677-3618

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**Turf Services, Inc.**  
Matt Heiss  
(616) 842-4975

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Next Day Delivery Guaranteed!  
(800) 790-1898 / (800) 677-1006

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Mark Hensley  
(800) 321-5325

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It Pays To Plant The Best  
(989) 773-5391 / (800) 344-2482

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"A Warehouse On Wheels"  
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Serving Northern Michigan From Gaylord  
(989) 705-8180 / (866) 705-8180

**Turf Chemicals, Inc.**  
Russ Hancock  
(989) 725-7145 / (800) 733-7145

**United Horticultural Supply**  
Steve Fent  
(989) 277-4704

**\*OTHER\***

**Holiday Inn Grayling**  
(989) 348-7611 / (800) 292-9055

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**Great Lakes Turf Equipment**  
Quality Used Turf Equipment  
(248) 640-1174

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Your Full Line Toro Distributor  
(800) 822-2216

**Weingartz Golf & Turf**  
Distributor of John Deere Equipment  
(616) 696-2913 / (248) 295-0105

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**Boylan Sales, Inc.—Yamaha Golf Cars**  
Jim Atchison  
(269) 685-6828 / (269) 437-2602—Cell

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(888) 746-0800—Kalkaska / (866) 743-6817—Flint

**\*TIRES & TUBES\***

**Tire Wholesalers Company**  
Dan Cress  
(231) 775-6666 / (231) 775-8810

*...and we encourage you to support them*

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



**NMTMA Executive Committee**

Steve Hammon	President
Craig Hoffman	Vice President
Dan Hunt	Treasurer
Tom Reed, Sr.	Executive Secretary

Dr. James B. Beard  
International Sports Turf  
Box 10065  
College Station, TX 77842



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