

James B. Beard

# NORTHERN MICHIGAN TURF MANAGERS ASSOCIATION

CM

FRANK HEMINGER, SECRETARY-TREAS.

CHRISTMAS 1982

1147 SANTO

TRAVERSE CITY, MI. 49684

PHONE: 616-947-9274

"Seasons Greetings" - May the years  
of your life be pleasant,  
May your beautiful dreams come true,  
And in all that you plan and practice,  
May blessings decend on you,  
May the trail of your life lead  
onward,  
With many surprises in store, and  
the days that were happy and golden,  
Prove merely the promise of more.

**B**  
BEARD  
COLLECTION

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Your Board of Directors would like to add to the above and wish everyone the finest Christmas ever and a very Happy New Year, filled with good health, good weather, good turf, cooperation with Mother Nature and very few problems in maintaining your beautiful green area in 1983.

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October 9th, was our big Social Party for the Gals at Micawye Hills. We would be remiss if we did not thank the Social Committee for arranging one of the nicest evenings that we could have had. Our thanks also for arranging for the orchestra goes to W.F. Miller Co., Sandymac Corp., O.M. Scott & Sons, Sprinkler Irrigation Supply, Spartan Distributors and Tri Turf. The people at Michawye Hills did themselves proud by serving one of the nicest meals this writer has had in a long while. In particular we would like to thank Jim Sparling the Superintendent for following up on details, Mike Husby, Professional for his help and hospitality in permitting some to play this fine golf course and to Jim LaDuke, General Manager for his fine personnel that so graciously handled our private party. It was a memorable evening as has been our experience at this beautiful clubhouse.

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1983 is just around the corner and we must think in terms of what will happen then besides taxes. The first big item on the agenda will be the 53rd Annual Michigan Turfgrass Conference, sponsored by Michigan State University and the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation at Long's Convention Center in Lansing. An interesting program is in store for thos who attend. Special sessions will include emphasis on MSU turfgrass research reports, golf course management, lawn care business topics, athletic field management, sod production, clipping removal from fairways and other important green industry subjects.

There will be many out of state speakers, Dr. Joe Duich, Professor of Turf Management at Penn State, Dr. Harry Niemczyk, Professor of Entomology, Ohio State University and Dr. David Nielson, Professor of Plant Pathology, also from Ohio State, plus speakers from M.S.U. and other places. It will be an outstanding educational program.

Then on Wednesday afternoon there will be special "basic school" sessions available on a first come, first serve basis, including two hour sessions on turf insect identification, shrub and tree pest indetification, grass identification and basic soils. Those who wish to take their pesticide applicators certification or recertification examinations will be able to do just that. Jan. 18 & 19th are the dates.

# THE MICRO-COMPUTER . . .

## A tool for golf course maintenance now and in the future.

by **David L. Moote**

Teaching Master, Seneca College  
**Golf Course Technician Program**

R.F. Moote & Associates Ltd.  
Golf Course & Landscape Architects

As a golf course superintendent, making the most of your valuable time is a priority. As monies and course maintenance budgets have tightened up, an increasingly significant amount of the superintendent's time and responsibility is being devoted to the "business" management aspect of greenkeeping; an amount of time equal to and in some cases exceeding that relegated to the actual management of your turf. In efficiently allocating every course maintenance dollar, detailed records of past, present and future must be available at a moment's notice for constant monitoring and comparison. Be it a breakdown of any budget category, tracing a specific invoice or the date of a memo, adding comments to your file on an employee, analyzing time spent at specific jobs throughout the season, reference to past records, a summary of planned daily activities, a budget update and forecast, your fertilizer or chemical schedule and rates, reference to a library of specific technical information, performing calculations, correlating weather with disease incidence, checking back in your daily journal for activities on a given day, metric conversions, inventory of supplies, the mechanical repair history of a given machine, or preparation of 10 copies outlining the feasibility and justification for the purchase of a new piece of equipment, etc., considerable time and effort are represented. One need only recall that trivial error in calculation which required such painstaking corrections to last year's budget forecast. Could a computer be the answer?

Several superintendents have made peripheral use of small computers, while others, particularly those at municipal courses, have been able to tap into larger central computer systems. It goes without saying, however, that the computer has had little or no direct impact on the Canadian golf course maintenance industry. Since the inception of computer applications to business, the cost of computer hardware (equipment), the developmental costs software (programs) production, the "mystique" of the computer and

programming, a lack of orientation by superintendents to the EDP field, as well as, no real need, all have been contributing factors. Computer education courses offered to date at colleges, universities and as professional development or continuing education experiences have been confusing and highly complicated. Content, traditionally has dealt more with programming, technical control languages and comprehension of the big central computers (main frame and mini computers), than simple "use" and "application". This has tended to reduce interest in potential users from all fields, especially those in small business.

Recently, feasible computer systems and programs have begun to infiltrate the small business field. As opposed to the costly central main frame and mini computer-individual terminal system with its time sharing, response time and control language intricacies and problems, "micro-computers" have emerged to meet the needs of small business. These completely independent, single-user systems have made a significant impact on the market place with applications to the golf course maintenance industry. The beauty of the micro-computer, in addition to the independence it offers, is its simplicity. Functions, operations, interpretation, inter-relationships are all easily understood, as is the control language. Reasonable cost is another positive factor. Three primary categories of micro-computers exist as determined by price. The IBM PC, Apple III, Super Pet, etc. represent the first group. Prices here start at \$7,000.00 for the hardware alone. These models have secondary storage (memory) potential in addition to the capability to talk to a main frame as a terminal. One should expect a cost of \$10,000.00 plus tax for a system in this category which includes processor, monitor and printer. Four thousand dollars (\$4,000.00) plus tax is the starting price for such models as the Apple II, Pet, TRS-80 and Osbourn which comprise the second group. Although a lesser amount of secondary storage is available, this may be supplemented

with double disc options. The base price for a full hardware package would be approximately \$5,000.00 plus tax. Group three models are those denoted as personal computers. The range for a Vic-20, 21 LOG, Timex (Sinclair), Vic-64, etc. is \$400.00 to \$700.00. Certain models have been reportedly selling for \$99.95 U.S. Before you run out and purchase one of these computers be certain that it covers the full range of your needs, both now and in the short-term future (options, etc.). To start with, 48K memory capability is a minimum requirement. From a business standpoint, use of a personal computer (group 3) is very limited. These are tremendous learning devices, calculators, entertainment, etc., but their capabilities are simply too restricted for golf course applications in particular.

In assessing the potential of the various micro-computers it is recommended that those in group two with double disc drive are most suited to the needs of the golf course superintendent. In fact, justification for such a purchase, purely from an economic standpoint, can be realized within the first or second year depending on respective budget allocations. Again, including a monitor, processor and printer, you should be prepared to invest \$5,000.00 plus tax for the hardware or equipment. An estimate of software (programs) costs would be in the neighbourhood of an additional \$5,000.00 for a total of \$10,000.00. At present, approximately  $\pm 50\%$  of the golf course superintendent's needs could be satisfied with existing programs. These are readily available throughout Canada at prices ranging from \$170.00 to \$595.00 each. Preliminary work has been initiated towards the development of software that relates specifically to the varying needs of golf course superintendents across Canada; however, at programming costs of up to \$250.00/hr., progress has been limited. Certain cases exist in which individuals or golf courses, who possess programming capabilities, have attempted to develop their own software. Such significant consumption of time, in addition to costs and normal duties has made this



approach practically prohibitive. As the micro-computer's cost-effectiveness and versatility become more apparent and allow you, the golf course superintendent, to perform your duties more efficiently, market demand will increase. This growth is a requisite for direct increases in the availability of specific golf maintenance software programs at reduced costs.

Regarding software and micro-computer selection, a note of caution must be brought to light. Among models from various manufacturers, such as the Apple II, Pet, TRS-80, or any other, software is not directly transferable. For instance, a program prepared for an Apple II can not simply be inserted into a PET system. Unfortunately, software is specific to the model and manufacturer for which it was developed. In practice, it would be far more feasible to take advantage of the full range of benefits at a reasonable cost undertaking, if those interested individuals within the Canadian golf maintenance industry, as a group, were to standardize hard and software requirements. The benefits could be practically limitless.

One final point concerning the use of micro-computers is the changing attitude of computer educators. Since the application of the micro-computer is primarily in the small business sector,

the businessman must learn how to use this tool. A small percentage of educational programmes have begun to reflect this "use" and "application" philosophy. In selecting a computer course, it is suggested that you question the content and direction of the course prior to registration. If it is not related specifically to micro-computers and the user, try another one. As a small businessman or golf course superintendent, the emphasis should be on basic micro-computer information, orientation, terminology and use only. The programming aspect, which, as previously mentioned, tends to lose interested individuals, should be minimized. Taking you through a simple program and relating how modifications can be made to suit your specific needs will enable you to take full advantage of the micro-computer.

Without question, the micro-computer can eliminate hours of record-keeping and wasted time each day. Time can be allotted to other vital areas with the only consequence being a more efficient course maintenance operation. Further information regarding any topics touched upon including the purchase of micro-computer hardware, current software development and understandable user-oriented educational sessions is available through the Greenmaster.

GREENMASTER

## Future Site Options For GCSAA Conference And Show

1983 — ATLANTA  
1984 — LAS VEGAS  
1985 — WASHINGTON, D.C.  
1986 — SAN FRANCISCO  
(Approved and Selected)

### Options 1987-2000

	Primary Target:	Back-Up Options:	
1987	Phoenix	New Orleans	
1988	Orlando	Atlanta	New York
1989	Los Angeles	Anaheim	San Francisco
1990	Orlando	Atlanta	New York
1991	Las Vegas	Phoenix	Dallas
1992	Orlando	New York	Atlanta
1993	Phoenix	San Francisco	Los Angeles
1994	San Francisco	Phoenix	San Diego
1995	Orlando	Miami	Wash., D.C.
1996	Los Angeles	Anaheim	San Diego
1997	San Diego	Las Vegas	Anaheim
1998	Wash., D.C.	Orlando	New York
1999	Phoenix	San Francisco	Anaheim
2000	San Francisco	Los Angeles	Anaheim

## The Whole In One

# Turf Management For Golf Courses

by James B. Beard  
Texas A & M University

Now an eminent turfgrass researcher has written a complete handbook of turf management.

Sponsored by the USGA, *Turf Management* was specifically prepared as a comprehensive reference and "how to" guide for green committee chairmen, golf course superintendents, and other turf professionals. Whether you're dealing with a leaf wilt problem, construction of a new bunker, or tournament preparations, you'll want to keep this book handy.

Up-to-date, clearly-written, and organized for convenience, *Turf Management* thoroughly covers turf maintenance, disease and pest control, equipment, irrigation, course design and construction, and management of course operations. Tips on tournament arrangements, security, landscaping, and traffic patterns are also included.

Hundreds of illustrations - line drawings, charts, graphs, and photographs - summarize valuable information for easy-to-find reference.

1982, 660 pages, cloth

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## SAFETY IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY



### GRINDERS

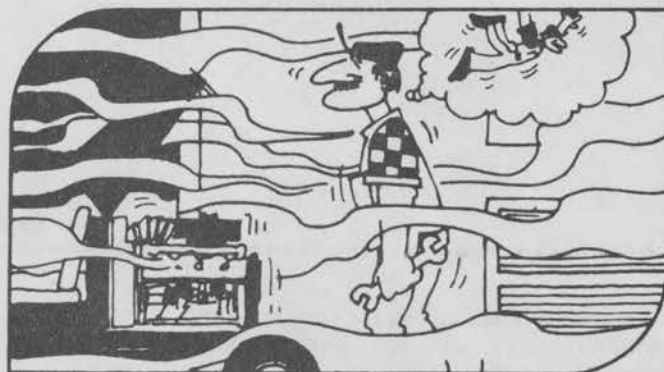
*The grinder is one of the most commonly used shop tools. When using please keep these four things in mind:*

1. Operator should ALWAYS wear safety glasses.
2. All guards should be in place and properly positioned.
3. Check the condition of the grinding wheel periodically.
4. All tool rests (on bench grinders) should be properly adjusted.

### VENTILATION

*Proper ventilation is required when any of the conditions below exist:*

1. When charging a battery.
2. When running any gasoline engine.
3. When painting or using paint thinners.
4. When grinding reels and bedknives.



### FIRE PREVENTION

*Fire Extinguishers should be:*

1. Positioned where they are easily accessible.
2. A maximum of 5 feet high.
3. Location boldly marked with fire extinguisher sign.

### ORDERLINESS

*A clean shop provides a good atmosphere as well as a safe working environment, the following should be avoided:*

1. Spilling and leaving oil or grease on the floor.
2. Permitting tools to become in poor operating condition and out of adjustment.
3. Leaving tools scattered around.

**REMEMBER**—A messy, dirty shop is unsafe as well as inefficient.

**THINK AND USE COMMON SENSE!!!**

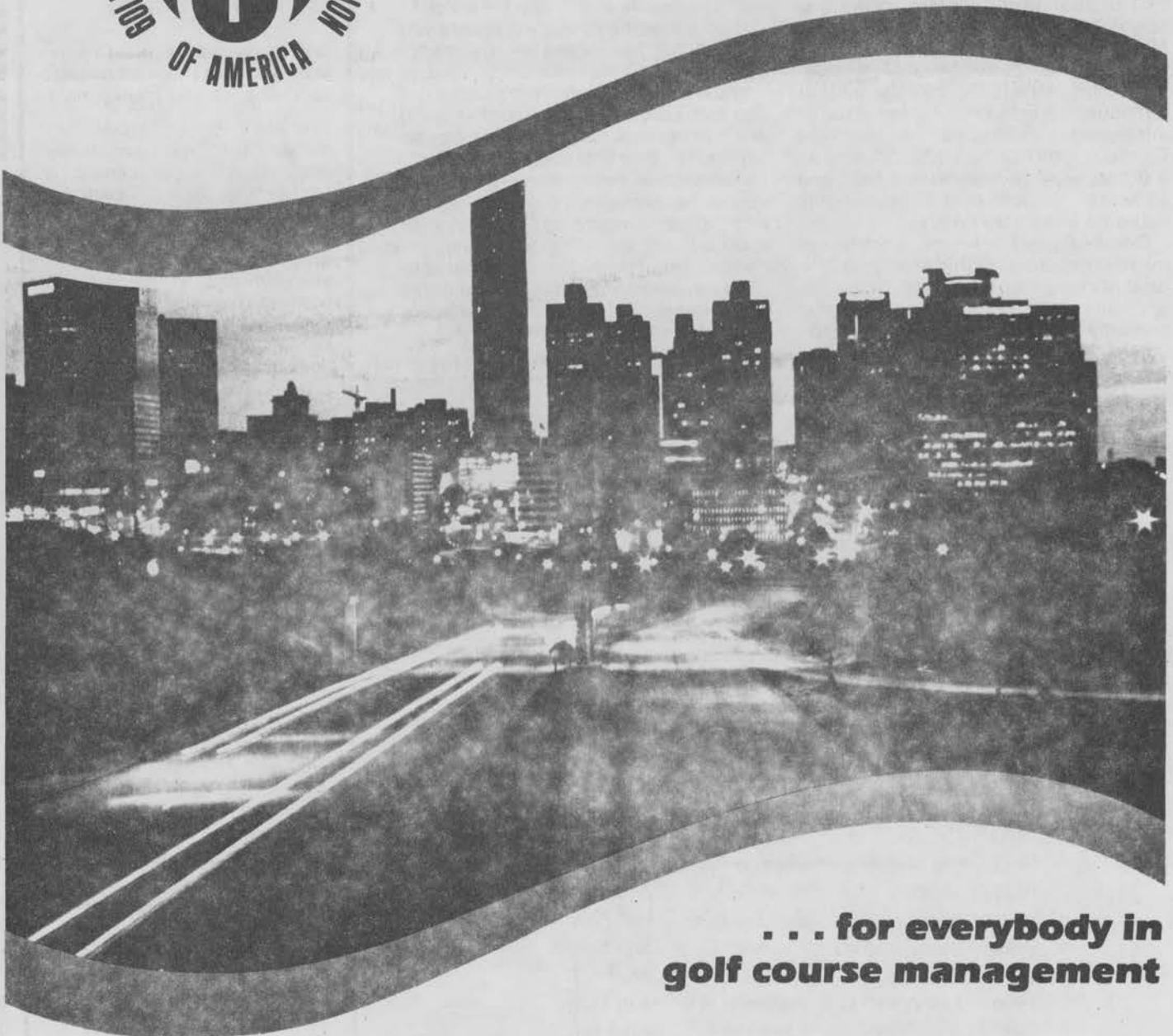


# Reach out!

# 54<sup>TH</sup>

## International Turfgrass Conference & Show

February 19th-25th, 1983 • ATLANTA, GEORGIA



**... for everybody in  
golf course management**

For complete color brochure and registration  
materials, please call: GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA  
TEL: (913) 841-2240

The 1983 membership booklet will soon be going to press and we would like to make it as current as possible. If there has been any change in your address, position club affiliation, telephone number or anything else, now is the time to inform our editor, Tuck Tate, 1216 Whitfield Ave., Sarasota, Fl. 33580. A note with the correct changes is all that is necessary. We would also like to remind you that if you have not paid 1982 or 1983 dues, your name will be dropped from the booklet. If you have any doubt about your dues, please contact Frank Heminger. His address and telephone number is listed on page 1. You will not get another notification on this, therefore your cooperation will be appreciated.

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Grand Traverse Hilton Village is looking for a new superintendent. If interested please contact Mr. Paul Hackler, Facilities Manager at the hotel, Phone: 616/938-2100, ask for his extension. Mailing address is Acme, Mi. 49610.

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#### OFFICIAL SLATE OF CANDIDATES DETERMINED

The GCSAA Nominating Committee has announced the official slate of candidates for the 1983 annual election.

President  
Vice-President

Robert W. Osterman, CGCS  
James W. Timmerman, CGCS  
Paul Boizelle, CGCS

Directors

William J. Emerson, CGCS  
Donald Hearn, CGCS  
James E. Lindblad, CGCS  
Richard V. Slivinski, CGCS

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The carpenter was helping me restore an old farmhouse and finished up a rough first day on the job. A flat tire lost an hour of work, his electric saw quit, and now his ancient pick up refused to start.

While I drove him home, he sat in stony silence. On arriving, he invited me to meet his family. As we walked toward his home, he paused briefly at a small tree, touching the tips of the branches with both hands.

Then, opening the door, he underwent an amazing transformation. His tanned face was wreathed in smiles, he hugged his two small children and gave his wife a happy kiss.

After our visit he walked me to the car. We passed the tree and my curiosity got the better of me. I asked him about what I saw him do earlier.

"Oh, that's my 'Trouble Tree.' I know I can't help having troubles on the job, but one thing's for sure—troubles don't belong in the house with my wife and children. So I just hang 'em on the tree every night when I come home; then in the morning, I pick them up. Funny thing is, when I come out in the morning to pick them up, there aren't nearly as many as I remember hanging up the night before."

*John S. Swift Co., Inc.*

#### DEEP THOUGHT

It's Saturday morning!  
It's bright as can be!  
How come I'm not out there  
On some lovely tee?

My golf clubs are handy,  
My shoes are all clean,  
Why is it I'm not out  
There reading a green?

Just one thing prevents me  
From playing my round:  
There's a foot and a half  
Of snow on the ground.

—Dick Emmons

Never esteem anything as of advantage to thee that shall make thee break thy word or lose thy self-respect.

*Marcus Aurelius*



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Dues for 1983 have been coming in very well and we are most grateful. There are still a few who need prodding, won't you please send your check to our Secretary-Treasurer.