

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MICHIGAN AND BORDER CITIES GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION

A PATCH OF GREEN

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 1995



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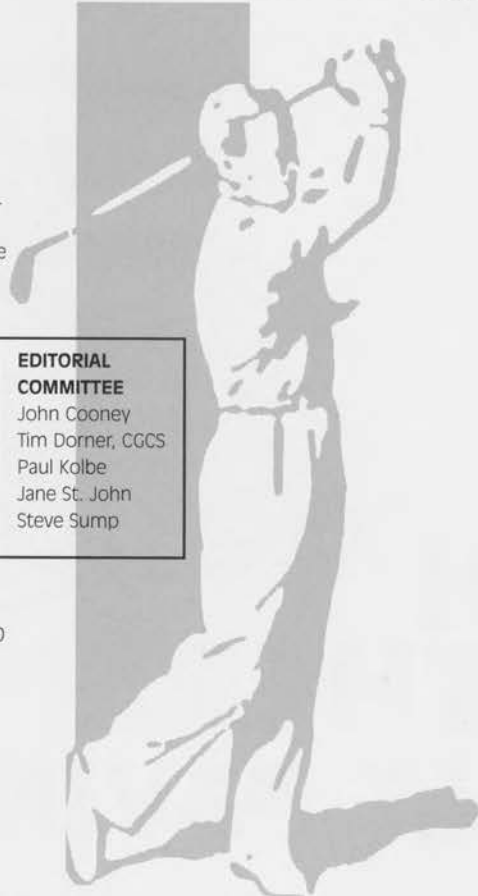
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS



December 1

Annual Christmas Party
Forest Lake
For information, call Jon Shreve
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December 8

Superintendents Only Meeting
Birmingham Country Club

January 15-18

66th Annual Michigan Turfgrass Conference
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NEW MEMBERS

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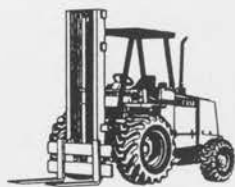
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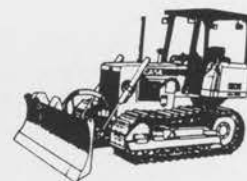
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SEASON'S GREETINGS

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on par **with the** president



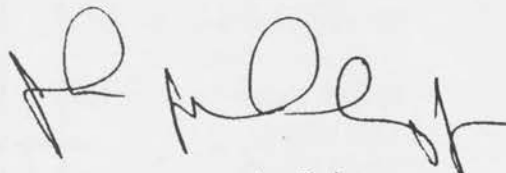
Let's take a brief look back at what many superintendents said was the most difficult summer anyone can remember — 1995. Kermit said, "It's not easy being green." He hit the nail right on the head. It didn't matter whether you had lots of money in your pesticide and fertilizer budgets. The conditions for turf loss were there, and most of us lost at least a small amount of grass. Reasons varied from Pythium, to the lack of root systems, summer patch root rot, anthracnose and wilt. August and September was a very depressing time.

I believe the quick action of all superintendents, with the help of experts at MSU (Ron Detwilder, Dr. Vargas and his staff) along with the good weather in September have resulted in almost 100 percent recovery. I can't imagine the weather ever being worse than the summer of '95, but I believe we've learned a lot this year and will use the valuable information in the future.

This being the last message from my desk, I would like to thank the membership for allowing me the honor of holding the office of president. It has been a definite learning experience for me, one which I will never forget. Many thanks to the real people who run this organization—your Board of Directors. It has been a tough job this year with the weather conditions being what they were, but each and every board member performed and fulfilled their commitments to the membership without exception. We have had to make changes in the organization, and those items have been accomplished and are working well. The future of the Michigan and Border Cities GCSA looks bright and prosperous.

Four years ago we hired the expertise of Mason Word Processing, Inc. Without a doubt, this has been the most important move our board has made in a long time. With all the increasing responsibilities each superintendent has acquired during the past few years, Kate has stepped in and taken on the tasks of keeping the organization's daily operations running like a clock. Kate has done much more than has been expected. Her contributions have been invaluable, including her work on the budget, Special Olympics, Christmas party and also our recent venture, The Foundation. Many times over, thanks to Kate.

Well, happy hunting, Happy Holidays and many thanks again!



Jay Delcamp

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MEMORANDUM

TO: A&B MEMBERS

FROM: TOM MASON, GCSAA Liaison and Delegate

RE: **Annual "SUPERINTENDENTS ONLY" Meeting**
Friday, December 8, 1995, 8 a.m.
Birmingham Country Club

I would like to encourage all A&B Members to attend the annual "Superintendents Only" meeting. We will be discussing "GCSAA Issues" and "The Future of MBCGCSA."

kate speaking

"Michigan and Border Cities...Kate speaking."

"Hello, Kate. This is Allen James. I'm a new member."

"Oh, yes. What can I do for you, Al?"

"Well, I think my wife, Kim, and I are interested in attending the Christmas Party."

"Great! It's always a very nice evening...cocktails, dinner, dancing. We have a great band, "Secrets," which has been playing for our party for years. We love 'em. They play all kinds of music. Everyone enjoys them. Usually some nice door prizes are given away, and we'll be honoring the Past President, Ken DeBusscher, who's leaving the Board."

"Well, actually, I wasn't sure I wanted to spend that much money."

"Oh. I hate to see you miss it. Consider it a

Christmas present to yourselves!"

"Mmm...I don't know."

"You'll find it to be a wonderful evening out with your wife, a chance to see Forest Lake, which is a great club, and a great opportunity to meet other members and develop relationships with your peers. And remember, besides the Picnic in August, this is the only time the spouses are involved in anything. It would be good for Kim to meet some other wives and meet those superintendents you're always talking about. I've always had a good time. Please consider it!"

"You're probably right. I'll talk to Kim about it."

"Good. Get your reservation in as soon as possible. Hope to see you December 1st. Oh...Kim will probably want to know what to wear.

I've seen everything from "dressy" dresses to strapless, long-skirted banged outfits...whatever she feels comfortable in. I'll probably wear a nice suit."

"Thanks, Kate."

"Anytime, Allen."

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THE BIG EVENT

— BIGGER THAN EVER!

BY ROY SZYNDLAR

The setting for this year's Big Event was absolutely perfect, with sunny skies, a gentle breeze and temperatures in the low 70s. Who could ask for anything more (except for, maybe, a score to match the temperature)? The four courses on this year's venue were: Detroit Golf Club, Clem Wolfrom, superintendent; Meadowbrook Country Club, Mike Edgerton, superintendent; Walnut Creek Country Club, Ed Hock, superintendent; and Bay Pointe Golf Club, Rick Murphy, superintendent.

The BIG EVENT has become quite popular, as was proven by the rapid pace at which the tee spaces were filled. We had more than 400 participants again this year, many of whom are returnees from previous EVENTS. I'm sure that the popularity of our BIG EVENT is that it gives golfers who are not associated with a private club the opportunity to play at this type of course and enjoy the beautiful conditioning and other amenities that these facilities provide. We are extremely grateful to the participating clubs for donating the use of their facilities so that we can raise money for the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation.

After enjoying a round on the links, all the participants convened at Bay Pointe Golf Club for a prime rib dinner and the presentation of prizes. The Stableford system of scoring was used to determine first- and second-place team winners and also an individual winner at each course. Another thing that makes the BIG EVENT so popular is the number and value of prizes that we give away. You do not have to have a great day on the golf course in order to win something. You just have to be lucky. Fortunate winners received numerous golf packages, dinner and theater tickets, gift certificates and merchandise. Along with the golf, we also conducted several

other activities that have proven popular with golfers and help generate additional monies for the MTF. These include a 50/50 drawing, a skins game, and this year we added a raffle drawing with a Caribbean cruise as a grand prize.

The winner of the Caribbean cruise for two was Otto Geisz of St. Clair Shores. Otto works for and purchased his ticket from Frank Bartlett at Selfridge Golf Course. Frank realized that in order to ensure that his tickets would be eligible for the drawing he would, literally, have to go that extra mile and personally deliver them. He then jumped on his trusty motorcycle and drove over to Troy. Unfortunately, he was forced to take a few planned and unplanned detours, but after a few phone calls and adjustments to his

continued on page 10



Dr. Joe Vargas Jr., Dr. Trey Rogers and Bay Pointe's Rick Murphy helped the Big Event succeed.



Ed Hock was not only a host at his Walnut Creek Golf Course, but was also co-chairman of the event. Great job Ed!



Co-chairman Roy Szyndlar, left, and Mike Bay in charge of handing out the prizes.



Peter Kerlechuk of Ontario won the television set.

course he was able to hand deliver the tickets to Kate Mason only a few hours before the drawing. Way to go, Frank!

All totalled, the 1996 BIG EVENT raised approximately \$25,000. In the 30 years that we have held this event we have raised nearly \$300,000 for turf research and scholarships.

Our success this year was made possible by the hard work of the committee members Dick Matthews, Jerry Cyr, Jim Houston, Ed Hock and Mike Bay, plus the exceptional organizational skills of our executive secretary Kate Mason. I also would like to recognize the support of the participating vendors, the golf courses that donated golf packages and the efforts of those who sold raffle tickets and/or contributed a golf prize. Thank you all.

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Walnut Creek team winners



Meadowbrook Country Club team winners



Baypointe Golf Club team winners



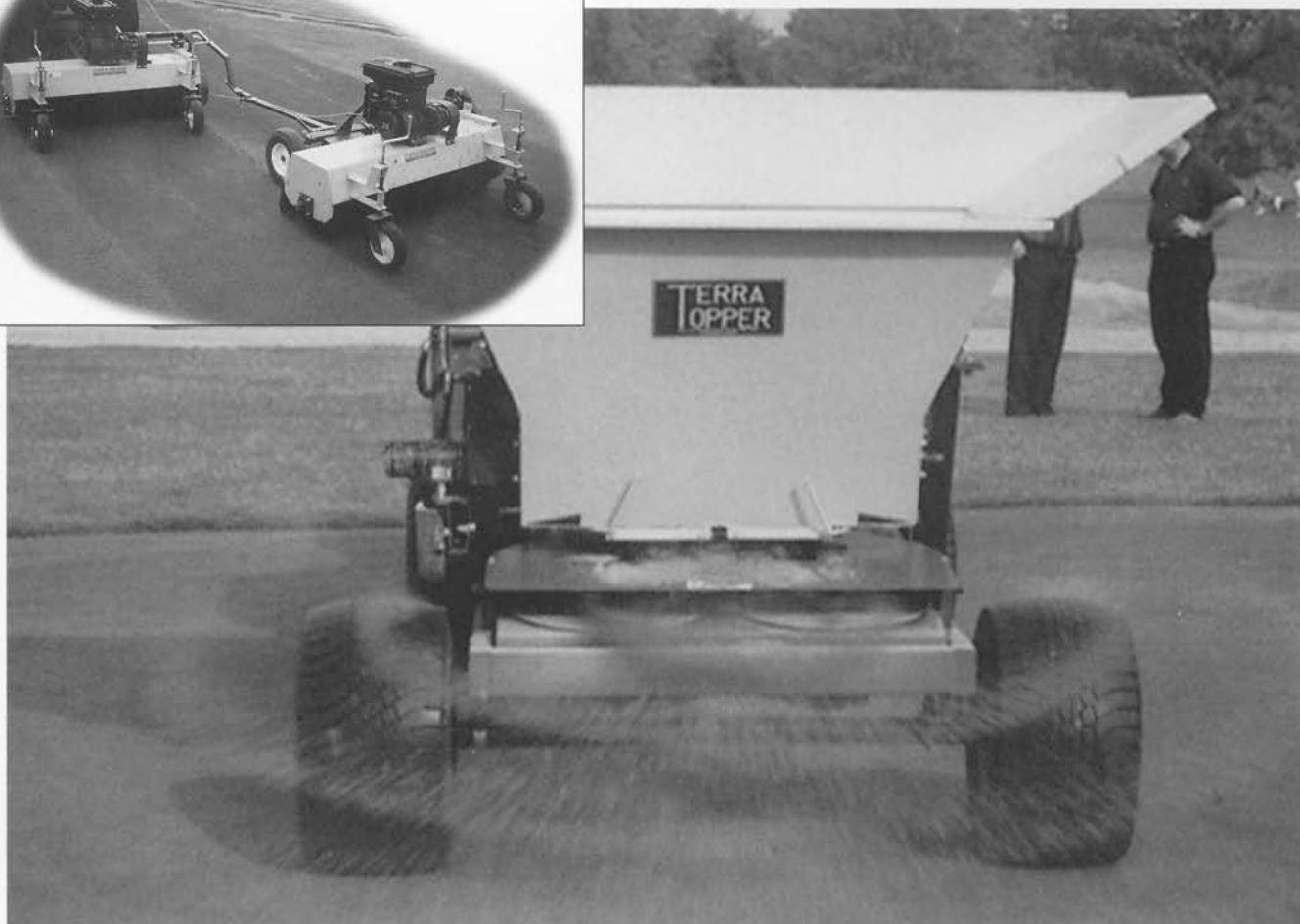
Detroit Golf Club team winners

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ANNUAL MEETING HELD OCTOBER 24TH.

MBCGCSA's annual meeting was again held at Maple Lane Golf Club, with owner Peter Roehl and superintendent Paul Kolbe hosting the 49 golfers and 65 people attending the dinner. A blustery, cool day greeted the golfers, but John Shannanan weathered the conditions and won the Clarence Wolfrom Classic Tournament with a net score of 63.

Following dinner, the business meeting considered a full agenda and accomplished its tasks by 9:30 p.m. Jim Timmerman presided over the election process, with the following results:

President	Paul Dushane
Vice President	Paul Kolbe
Secretary-Treasurer	Roy Szyndlar CGCS
New Directors	Tim Dorner CGCS Rick Murphy CGCS

Also, President Paul Dushane will appoint two other board members to one-year terms to fill the vacancies left by Paul Kolbe and Roy Szyndlar as they move to the Executive Committee.

Many thanks go out to Immediate Past President Ken DeBusscher, President Jay Delcamp and Board members Jon Shreve CGCS and Dave Picot CGCS for their service to our association.

Every attendee was handed a booklet with all the committee reports, and questions were answered about them. Paul Dushane explained the Treasurer's Report and that we are complying with the IRS as to our nonprofit status and the purpose of creating the MBCGCSA Foundation.

In summary, the Foundation is where the money taken in is donated to some other organization, such as Special Olympics, the Big Event, awards, etc. All other money is placed into a contingency category, which is money the association is making, such as interest, referral services, etc. This money is used for membership services only.

A bylaw change was adopted, which involved the classification of our membership to coincide with the GCSAA classifications. Also, the 1997 dues increase was approved by a majority of members.

Here is the 1997 dues structure:

Class AA	No dues payment required
Class A,B,C	\$75 per year
Class E	No dues payment required
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Christmas Party -

Celebration Time is a Great Time to Thank Spouses!

BY JON SHREVE

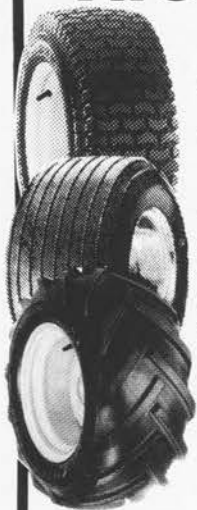
As the Christmas Party chairman, I would like you to consider attending this year's event on December 1st. We are going to have a great time at Forest Lake Country Club with Host Fritz McMullen. I have checked out the room where we are going to be partying, and it will be spectacular. There's a huge fireplace at one end of the ballroom where we'll be dancing the night away.

Guys, you really owe it to your wives to take them out for a very special time. Just think of all the times when you came home this summer in a bad mood because of the weather. Now you can pay them back for hanging in there with you and encouraging you through the dog days of summer.

So, put on your dancing shoes, get into the Christmas spirit and let's celebrate the night away and look toward better times ahead!



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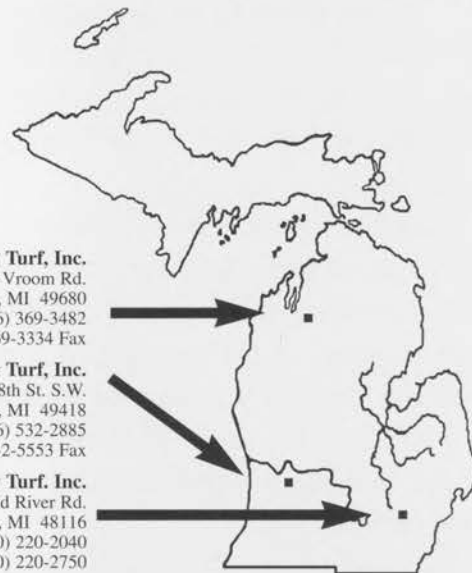
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Around the Course

Rick Murphy, superintendent of Bay Pointe Golf Club in West Bloomfield, has been designated a Certified Golf Course Superintendent (CGCS) by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA).

To become certified, a candidate must have five years' experience as a golf course superintendent, be employed in that capacity and meet specific educational requirements of college credit or continuing education units. The candidate must then pass a rigorous six-hour examination covering knowledge of GCSAA and its certification program; the rules of golf; turfgrass management; pest management, safety and compliance; and financial and organizational management.

As part of the certification process, an on-site inspection of Murphy's golf course operation was conducted by two certified golf course superintendents: Kevin Dushane, CGCS, of Bloomfield Hills Country Club, Bloomfield Hills, and Jonathan Shreve, CGCS, of Lakelands Golf & Country Club, Brighton.

GCSAA instituted the certification program in 1971 to recognize outstanding and progressive superintendents. More than 1,400 active GCSAA members currently hold "CGCS" status.



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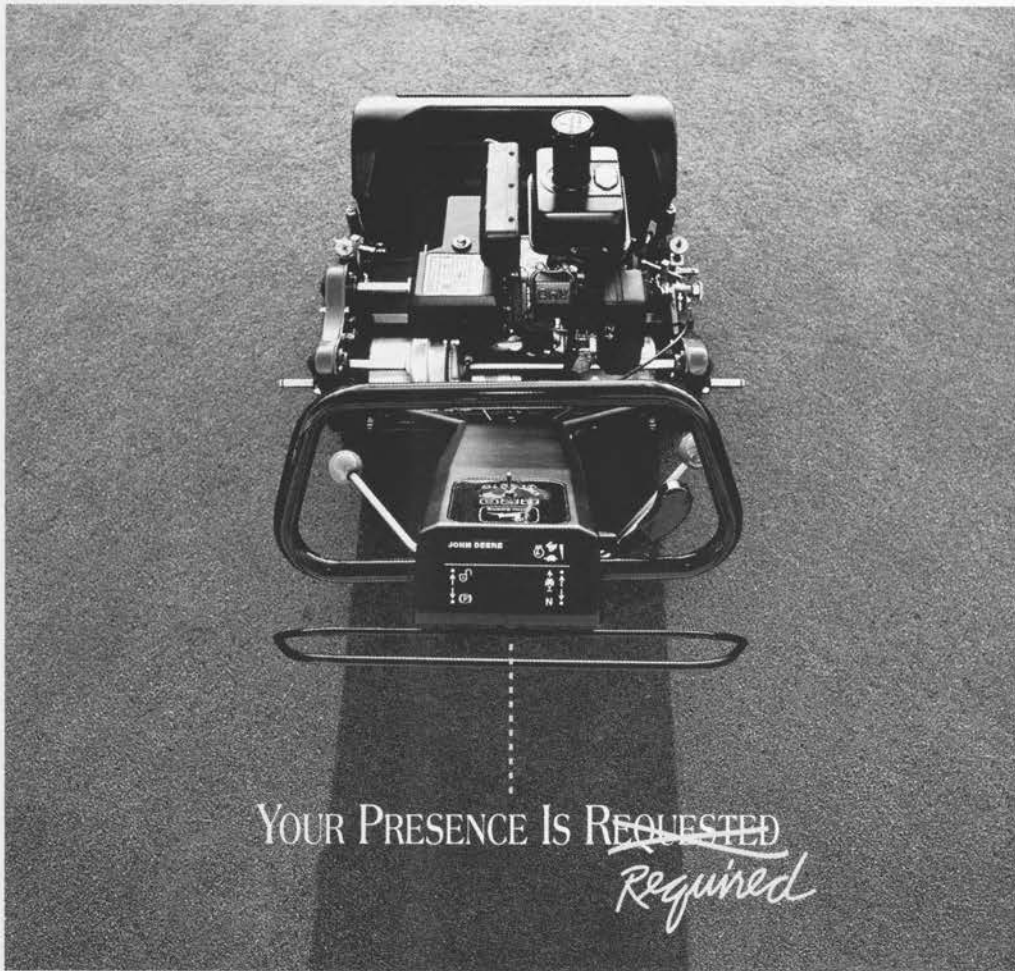
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