

U of M Update

(Continued from Page 7)

mittee for the tremendous job it did in researching, organizing and developing the MTGF Constitution.

As outlined in the constitution, the purpose of the Foundation is to "promote the turf and grounds industry in Minnesota; to encourage and support research, education and outreach at the University of Minnesota, and to represent allied associations including sports fields, cemeteries, campuses, school grounds, golf courses, lawns, parks, public grounds, roadsides, airports, sod and seed producers and others in matters regarding the turf and grounds industry." The Foundation is unique in that anyone who is a member of an allied association automatically becomes a member of the Foundation.

Following the completion of the constitution, each allied association was asked to elect a representative to the MTGF Board of Directors. According to the by-laws the Board of Directors then appointed a vendor representative to the Board.

The Board membership includes: Steve Balfany, *Minnesota Turf Association (MTA)*; Jim Habstritt, *Northern Minnesota Forage and Turf Seed Growers Committee (NMFSTSGC)*; Dean Heng, *Minnesota Park Supervisors Association (MPSA)*; John Hopko, Vendor; Greg Hubbard, *Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents Association (MGCSA)*; Doug Madsen, *Minnesota Nursery and Landscape Association (MNLA)*; Jim Ostvig, *Minnesota Association of Cemetery Officials (MACO)*; Tom Redmann, *Minnesota Association of School Maintenance Supervisors (MASMS)*; Tom Rudberg, *Minnesota Sports Turf Managers Association (MSTMA)* and Brad Pedersen, University of Minnesota.

The University has also appointed an advisory group to work with the MTGF Board. Members include Dr. Mark Ascemo, Dept. of Entomology; Dr. Nancy Ehlke, Dept. of

Agronomy and Plant Genetics; Robert Mugaas, MES; Brad Pedersen and Dr. Don White, Dept. of Horticultural Science; Dr. Carl Rosen, Dept. of Soil Science, and Dr. Ward Stienstra, Department of Plant Pathology.

At this writing the MTGF Board is completing the house-keeping chores involved with registration and tax-exempt status. A complete allied association membership roster is also being compiled. Additional goals under discussion for 1994 include a joint MPSA/MTGF-sponsored Summer Turf Expo, and a joint MGCSA/MTGF-sponsored Winter Conference and Trade Show.

The MTGF Board of Directors is excited about the possibilities associated with the establishment of the MTGF, not only for turf, but for the entire Minnesota green industry.

Minnesota Sports Turf Managers Association

As indicated by its official participation in the MTGF, the *Minnesota Sports Turf Managers Association (MSTMA)*, is also, just recently, an official association. The MSTMA Constitution has been completed and officers elected: Tom Rudberg, University of St. Thomas, President; Mike McDonald, Bierman Field, University of Minnesota, Vice President, and Brian Deyak, St. Cloud Sports Center, Secretary/Treasurer. The MSTMA is also planning its first event for 1994.

Questions or comments regarding these new initiatives or other turf and landscape-related activities at the University of Minnesota can be directed to Brad Pedersen, Turfgrass Specialist, Department of Horticultural Science.

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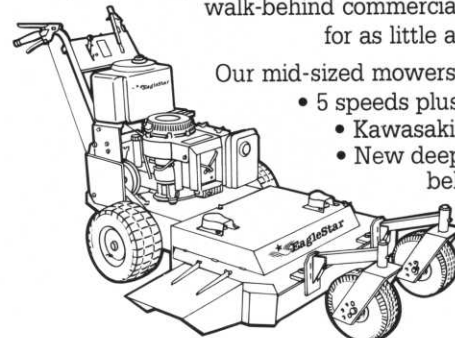
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**Golf Course Owner/
Superintendent
Al Joyner Dies at 68**

Al Joyner, Owner/Superintendent of Brooklyn Park Golf in Brooklyn Park and Silver Springs Golf in Monticello, died Thursday, February 17 from complications after suffering a stroke. Joyner was a long time member of the MGCSA and was instrumental in the careers of son-in-law, Peter Dane of Silver Springs Golf and nephew, Bill Larson of Town and Country Club, St. Paul.

1994 MGCSA MONTHLY MEETINGS

Mon., April 11 Benson Golf Club
 Mon., May 9 LeSueur Country Club
 Mon., June 13 Alexandria Golf Club
 Mon., July 18 GARSKE SCHOLARSHIP SCRAMBLE
 Rochester Golf & Country Club
 Mon., Aug. 8 MGCSA CHAMPIONSHIP
 (Course to be announced)
 Mon., Sept. 12 STODOLA RESEARCH SCRAMBLE
 Hazeltine National Golf Club
 Mon., Oct. 10 Minneapolis Golf Club
 Wed.-Fri., Dec. 7-9 ANNUAL CONFERENCE
 Minneapolis Convention Center

CORRUGATED POLYETHYLENE PIPE

**Superintendents
'Bull' Session
To Be Held March 7
In Alexandria**

A group of Central Minnesota Superintendents is getting together on Monday, March 7, 1994 at the Alexandria Golf Club at 10:00 a.m. to discuss course maintenance topics. Round table discussions of any topic will be fielded. All superintendents in the tri-state region are welcomed. Coffee and donuts will be provided.

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USGA Green Section Great Lakes Region News

Bob Vavrek was born in Newport News, Virginia, but was raised near Cleveland, Ohio. He attended Marietta College and earned a B.S. degree in Biology in 1977. After college he worked almost two years in several hospitals as a Registered Respiratory Therapist before entering graduate school at The Ohio State University. He earned an M.S. degree in Turf Entomology with Dr. Harry Niemczyk in 1983. His Master's thesis investigated the effects of turf insecticides on beneficial insects. He was in a PhD program at Cornell University under Dr. Marty Petrovic studying the effects of pH and calcium on thatch accumulation when hired by the USGA in 1990. He was originally hired to work in both the Great Lakes and Mid-Continent Regions of the USGA Green Section. In 1991 he began working full time in the north central tier of states with Jim Latham, the director of the Great Lakes Region. Bob's hobbies include fly-fishing, hunting and raquetball.

Jim Latham was born in Hillsboro, Texas, where he attended high school and Junior College, with a short tour with the Marine Corps in there somewhere. He graduated from Texas A&M in 1952 with a BS degree in Soil Science and stayed on as an employee/student to earn an MS degree in Agronomy (Plant Breeding) in 1954. During that time, he became interested in turfgrass science through contacts with Dr. Marvin Ferguson, Dr. Jim Watson and a pinochle-playing neighbor who was involved in the then small turf-grass program at A&M.

His first "official" contact with the turf industry was under Dr. Glenn Burton and B.P. Robinson at the Tifton, GA., Experiment Station during the development of Tifgreen and Tifway bermudagrasses and Emerald zoysiagrass. In 1956, he moved to New Brunswick, N.J. to do summer work for the Northeastern Green Section office and further graduate study at Rutgers University. The following year, an opportunity arose to work full-time as the Green Section's Southeastern agronomist, so the Lathams moved South.

In 1960 the impending retirement of O.J. Noer created an opening for an agronomist in the Milorganite Division of the Milwaukee Sewerage Commission under Charlie Wilson. The next 25 years were spent visiting turf installations throughout North America and working with Milorganite distributors such as Jim Graham and Milt Wiley in Minnesota.

Jim and wife Lois are entering their tenth year of this tour with the Green Section in the Great Lakes Region, Jim as director and Lois as office coordinator (she makes things work properly). They have two daughters and four grandchildren.

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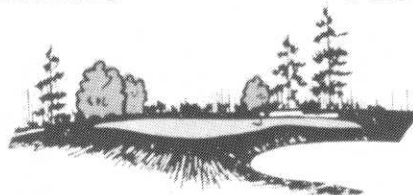
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(It's about time.)

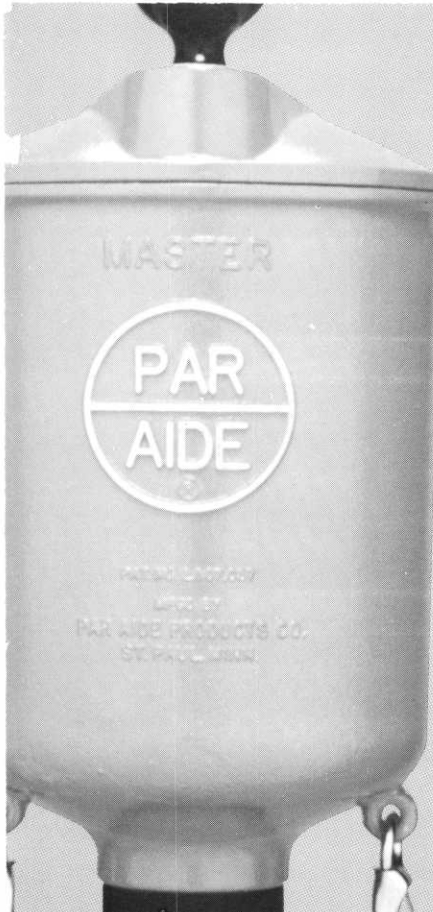
EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

Just a few notes that were taken down at the GCSAA's Conference in Dallas;

- New Innovations - Trims computer software
Electric greens mowers
Bacterial Algae Eaters
Chain saw trenchers
- Hand-outs - Any canvas bag
GolfWeek Magazine
USGA Literature
Pursell mini basketballs
- Marketing Ideas - Companies that have "Enviro" or "Organo" or "Eco" for a prefix on their name.
- Longest Walk - Trade Show floor
- Favorite Phrase - "How 'bout them boys"
- Classy Moment - The GCSAA's new CFO Julian Arrendondo helping lost Superintendents' find their way to class.
- USGA Program - How to create a "Bio-sphere" by using 2 liter pop containers.
Multitude of ways to cover french drains.
Ben Crenshaw's comments about being a Golf Course Superintendent
- Friday Night Hoedown - Credit Steve Garske of Par Aide, North Star Turf and MTI Dis-

- tributing.
- Best Dressed Award:
"Wild" Bill Johnson of Edina C.C.
- Quickest Draw:
"Jesse" James Gardner
- 2nd Quickest Draw:
"Slow" Steve Garske
- Shot Themselves in the Foot:
Tim Neary, Todd Grimm and about six others.
- Best Line Dancers:
Jim and Barb Nicol

- Sunday Night Stars Game -
Old term: Player's Bench
New term: Dugout
- Old term: Line Change
New term: New Group Coming Out
- Old term: Blue Line
New term: 3 Point Land
- Old term: Skill Test
New term: Shoot Into An Open Net
- Old term: Hat Trick
New term: 3 Stetsons On Ol' Paint
- Old term: Zamboni
New term: Shaved Ice for Slushies
- Old term: Great Atmosphere
New term: Lack Thereof.



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"ENVIROMATION"

This monthly addition to *Hole Notes* will cover issues, commentary, information and research results pertaining to environmental concerns on the local, state and national level.

The preliminary results were released in Dallas from the GCSAA commissioned occupational health study. Dr. Burton Kross, associate director of the University of Iowa Institute of Agricultural Medicine and Occupational Health, was the lead researcher. "The study was a statistical analysis of death certificates among 618 former GCSAA members who died between 1970 and 1992." A few of the key points to this study is that statistical mortality research doesn't address what caused the deaths. "NO CAUSE AND EFFECT CAN OR SHOULD BE DRAWN FROM THE STUDY" and also that the researchers specifically stated that "GOLFERS ARE AT NO RISK". "The Iowa researchers found that the group had a higher rate of mortality from lung cancer than the general population. They also found higher than average mortality for a number of other cancers including brain, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma and prostate." GCSAA will continue to support continued research into improving its members safety and health in the workplace.

While these preliminary results DO NOT show a direct cause and effect to any specific part of our workplace, it only reinforces continued awareness and training into worker safety. Remember - Risk = Hazards/Safeguards. Dr. Kross' studies also showed that dermal contact was the most prevalent way workers came in direct contact to chemicals. Proper clothing and training are especially important when grounds staff are mixing chemicals. When deciding on which chemicals you will be using this season, make sure that how the product is packaged and/or formulated ("safety friendly and environmentally friendly") plays a major role in your choice. Consider the closed systems products such as the water soluble packets, or dry flowables, and turf paks. Also based on Dr. Kross' initial findings, it may be prudent to ban smoking in your workplace, if you haven't done so already.

On the national front, EPA has made a commitment to reduce pesticide use and is determining uniform definitions for IPM, risk assessment and parameters for the new buzzword "benefit assessment". Golf courses must reevaluate their turf management programs to help achieve reduced pesticide use and rely more heavily on other aspects of IPM. Some of these other components would be increased cultural controls (aerification), the use of disease and drought resistant cultivars and more efficient irrigation management.

Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) made many site inspections this past year including many golf courses. Golf courses did very well on these inspections with some notable exceptions. Ironically the most recurrent noncompliance areas are probably the easiest to remedy. Three of them were: DO NOT Store Chemicals on the Floor, No Backflow Prevention Devices on Tank Fills and there

should NOT BE any Floor Drains Near Chemical Storage Areas.

The GCSAA (Gets Completely Staggering After Awhile) Trade Show in Dallas is still growing in size and number of products. "Enviro" and "Eco" are also becoming more and more common as part of product and company names. Some of the products I saw were turf injectors, more organic fertilizers and blends thereof, low rate fungicides, mobile inflatable tank fill pads, wash water recycling systems, environmental site assessments and weather stations. As with any other product after the marketing names have been removed, is it a viable product or service for your situation and specifications? Also, remember with such things as chemical storage buildings, aboveground vaults and other systems, make sure they meet your specific federal, state and local regulations.

By the time this *Hole Notes* arrives, you should have filled out and sent in your annual DNR Irrigation Permit License renewal, the renewal form for Licensed Pesticides Applicators through the MDA, and hopefully the "Waste Pesticide Disposal Program" form to register the old and/or unused products that you are going to dispose of by bringing it to a MDA pick-up site this spring. If you have any

(Continued on Page 20)

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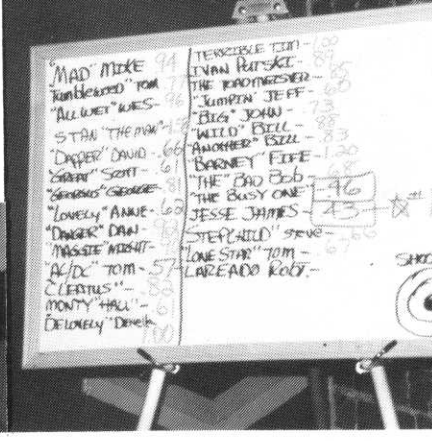
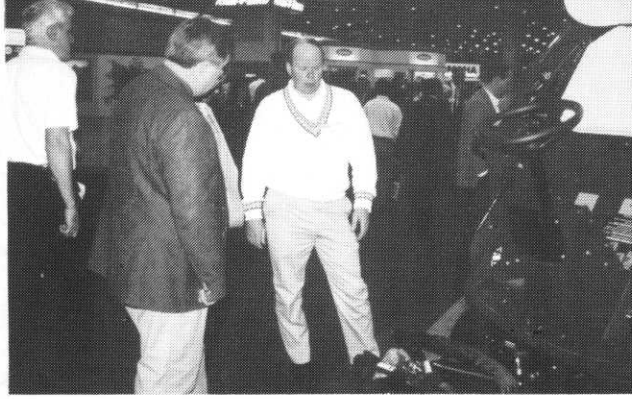
National Conve

The MGCSA received a big HOWDY from the Lone Star State. The GCSAA was holding its annual Turf Conference in the "Big D". Over 16,000 members of the GCSAA converged on Dallas for a week of intense educational seminars and a 5-acre trade show. However, first there was the ever popular opening session, with ever popular Zig Ziglar giving a keynote address that was sure to have you bouncing on your feet on the way out.

First, however, new CEO Steve Mona was introduced to the crowd and reassured us that he was going to meet every member of GCSAA and shake their hand. This is one goal that might have some hand-wrenching repercussions to it. The awards for the DSA were handed out to Allan MacMurrach and John J. Spodnick. The Leo Feser Award for the best authored article by a Superintendent went to Thomas A. Christy, CGCS of Riverside G & C.C., Portland, Ore.

Each year the trade show seems to get ever increasingly big! Nice comfortable shoes are a must; the miles that you put on your shoes should get some type of CEU's or something. The trade show offers a chance to continue your education with the design engineers that design the equipment that you use on your golf course or get some help on that particularly nasty little fungi, that nothing seems to work on. When you attend the GCSAA Annual Conference and Show, you most certainly will come out with more knowledge than you had before. As Gordon Sumner once said, "The more I learn, the more I find out how ignorant I actually was."

— Dale Wysocki
Editor



Convention at Dallas



Enviromation

(Continued from Page 17)

questions concerning this program, please give me a call.

NOTICE: The annual spring MDA recertification for licensed pesticide applicators workshop will be held in conjunction with the MGCSA Annual Conference in December.

In closing, our industry must continue to support quality and quantifiable research at all levels to help assess occupational health and safety awareness, to reinforce golf courses as environmental assets, and to continue to find better alternatives to golf course maintenance and manage-

ment through environmental stewardship. In coining an EPA term, we must continue to make "Benefit Assessments" on our golf courses for the good of our employees, golfers and the game of golf.

GOLF COURSES = ENVIRONMENTAL ASSETS!

*James D. Gardner
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