

TGIF Now on the World Wide Web

The Turfgrass Information Center (TIC) at Michigan State University has announced the global debut of the Turfgrass Information File (TGIF) database online through the World Wide Web. The continuing ten year project to provide access to turfgrass research online is now fully available through almost any computer and features easy search capability and convenient access.

Over 40,000 items are searchable using more than 300,000 different keywords. This means that the full scope of the turfgrass literature, from abscisic acid to zymograms, will be locatable with a new user-friendly face. You can use your mouse to do an entire search without typing, or use several of the other convenient search options.

The dynamic, fully-graphical interfaces will be demonstrated live at the upcoming Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) Conference in Anaheim. Please stop by either the Emerald Isle booth (No. 3289 of Hall D) or the MSU Turfgrass Club booth, to see TGIF / Web in action!

For full details about TIC and TGIF, visit the Turfgrass Information Center homepage on the Web at:

<http://www.lib.msu.edu/tgif>

Initially a cooperative project of the USGA Turfgrass Research Program and the Michigan State University Libraries, TGIF was intended to provide online access to all published materials reporting on aspects of turfgrass and its maintenance. TGIF has grown steadily in size and accessibility, beginning with dial-up modem access in 1988 and Internet (Telnet) access in 1993. TGIF content is based primarily on the O.J. Noer Memorial Turfgrass Collection at the Michigan State University Libraries. The data-

base identifies and locates the full range of documented turfgrass information, including turf-related articles from over 200 journals and magazines, research reports, conference proceedings, extension bulletins, book chapters, videos, databases, theses and dissertations, and Web and Gopher site documents. Over 4,000 records are added each year.

Included in the website is information about TIC databases and services, the Noer Collection, subscription forms, etc. Online content and services will be added steadily to the website. Some sections will be "public,"

while others, including full access to TGIF itself, will be available to subscribers only.

If you haven't used TGIF before, you'll want to now — Get linked to TGIF!

Contact:

Turfgrass Information Center
Michigan State University
100 Library
East Lansing, MI 48824-1048

* * *

Telephone: (517) 353-7209

Fax: (517) 353-1975

E-mail: tgif@pilot.msu.edu

'tis the Season for Workplace Fatalities, Warns OSHA

Fatalities at the workplace soar during the last few months of the year, according to statistics from Minnesota OSHA.

"During the first three quarters of the year, there is an average of 5.6 fatal injuries per quarter. But during the last quarter, there are often twice as many," said Commissioner Gary W. Bastian, Department of Labor and Industry. "We want to raise awareness of this alarming trend and encourage employees and employers to take time to review their safety programs."

Although it is difficult to attribute specific causes to the increase, Minnesota OSHA offers several factors that may play a role:

- Slippery outside work surfaces due to ice and frost.
- Construction contractors rushing to finish work before the end of the season.
- Shorter daylight hours reduce visibility and the number of hours to do work.
- The stress of the holiday season.

"During this time of year the rapidly changing weather, traffic jams and stress of the holidays can cause us to lose our focus at work," Bastian said. "We encourage everyone in Minnesota to be extra careful and to work as safely as possible."

— James Honerman
Minnesota OSHA

FROSTBITE

THE BIG CHILL

Provided by the Waseca Area Medical Center

What is Frostbite?

Frostbite occurs when the body is so cold that ice crystals form in the spaces surrounding body cells. Damage to tissue occurs as the cells freeze.

The areas mainly affected by frostbite are hands, feet, ears, nose and cheeks.

As with burns, frostbite severity is measured in degrees:

- **First degree frostbite:** Temporary tenderness and reddened skin. This probably won't result in permanent damage.
- **Second degree frostbite:** Blisters and some tissue and nerve damage. This can result in permanent hypersensitivity to cold and increase the risk of future frostbite.
- **Third degree frostbite:** Tissue death, requiring skin grafting or amputation.
- **Windchill,** temperatures combined with wind speed, increases risk of frostbite.

Symptoms of Frostbite

- Tingling and burning are early symptoms and a warning to get out of the cold immediately. If this isn't possible, move around vigorously to increase circulation.
- The next stage is numbness. By this time you probably have frostbite.
- In the third stage skin may appear pale or white and cold to the touch.
- In final stages swelling, hemorrhage and blisters may form after the skin thaws.

All frostbite, regardless of severity, should be examined by a physician as soon as possible, as prompt treatment increases chances for complete recovery.

How to Prevent Frostbite

- Keep your skin dry. Wet skin freezes more rapidly. Dress in layers of light rather than bulky, heavy clothes. Waffle-weave and cotton clothing trap air; polypropylene will absorb respiration away, reducing heat loss.
- Choose clothes such as a closely woven shirt and slacks topped by a sweater. Wool provides good insulation. A good outer layer is a hooded parka.
- Down-filled garments are warm but useless when wet; synthetics provide better insulation in adverse conditions.

- Wear a hat or at least earmuffs that cover your ears. The body loses the greatest amount of heat through the scalp and underlying tissues of the ears are very thin, so ears are especially prone to frostbite. Use a scarf or ski mask to protect your face.
- Light cotton socks topped by wool or synthetic socks will keep your feet warm. Boots should be high enough to cover your ankles. Avoid boots that are too tight; they decrease circulation.
- Protect your hands with mittens rather than gloves so fingers can warm each other.
- Don't wear earrings outside in the cold. They increase frostbite risk because metal conducts cold.
- Be prepared for winter travel in your car. Carry an emergency kit, food, blankets, extra clothing, boots, matches, etc.
- Avoid contact with metal and gasoline as it may be supercooled.
- Avoid alcoholic beverages which increase the rate at which the body cools and can cloud judgment and sense of touch.
- Avoid smoking which decreases circulation.

First Aid for Frostbite

- Avoid rubbing the area, especially with snow, which will worsen the injury.
- Don't walk on frostbitten feet or use a frostbitten area. If you must walk, the feet will suffer less damage if left frozen and padded. If feet are thawed, have someone carry you, if possible.
- Avoid thawing an area if you are far from help or if there is a chance of refreezing, as this will cause more damage.
- If you are in a permanent shelter and can thaw a frostbitten area:
 - ★ Immerse area for 20-45 minutes in tepid (98-104°F.) water. Avoid using hot water which may burn the area, causing more damage. As the area thaws it will turn pink or bright red and sensation may return.
 - ★ Do not put salves or creams on the frostbite.
 - ★ Protect the frostbite area from refreezing and seek medical attention.

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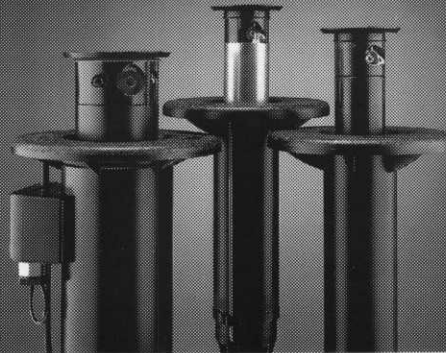
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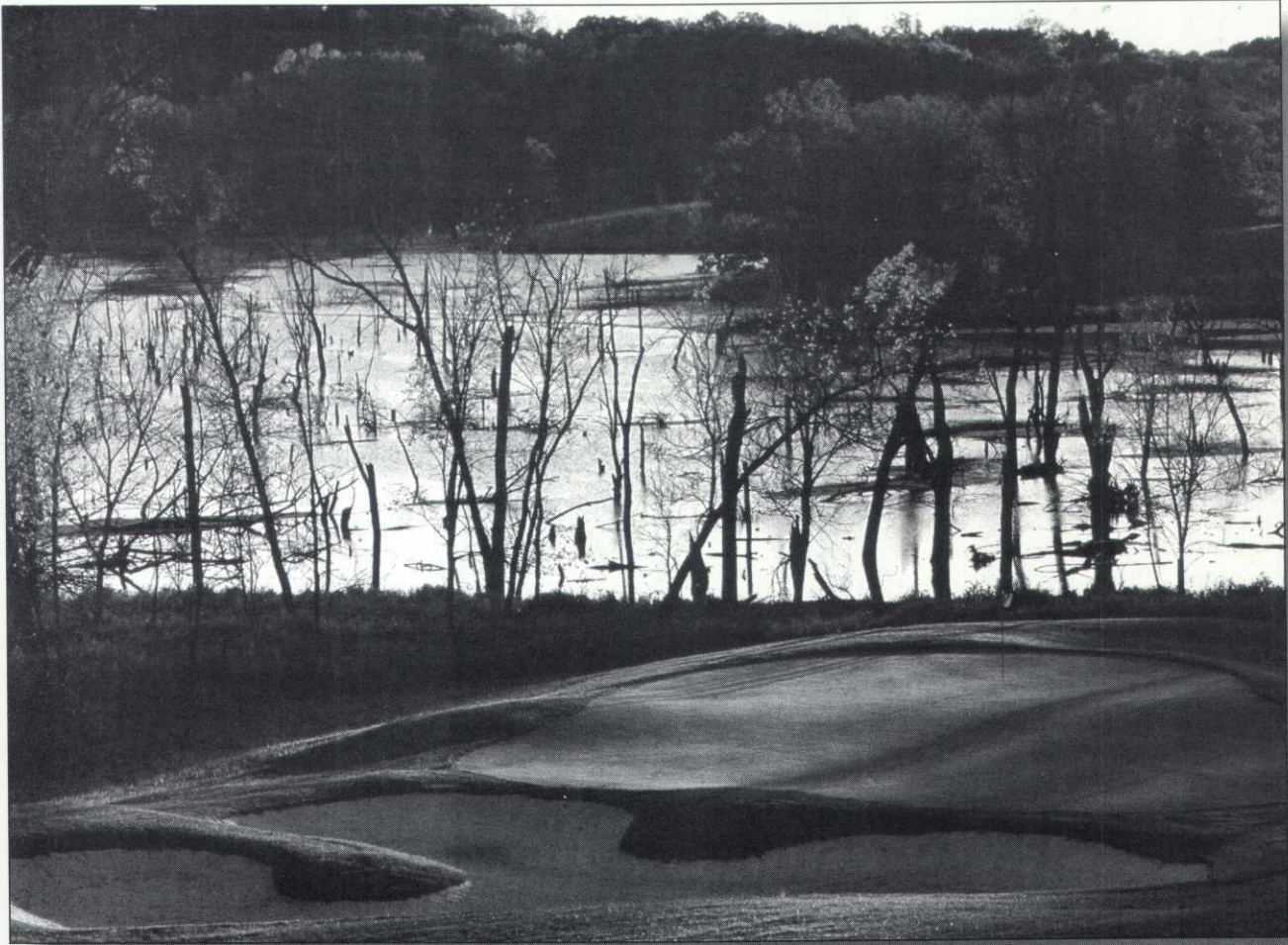
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EDITOR'S CORNER

By Rob Panuska
Waseca Lakeside Club



How time does tend to move along when you're having fun!!! This issue of *Hole Notes* is my last as your editor. I will be serving as the treasurer of the MGCSA for the next two years. The position of editor was definitely something different for me and presented some unique challenges — the biggest of which is finding enough material for each issue. I hope that you found this past year of *Hole Notes* educational and informative. Thank you for your comments and support. Please welcome Steve Shumansky from Perham Lakeside Club as your new editor for the next year.

* * * *

Congratulations to Fred and Amy Taylor on the birth of their daughter Allison Marie on November 8th. Also congrats to Joe Moris and his new granddaughter named Lindsay Rae who was born during the MTGF Conference and Show.

* * * *

Welcome new members and the Board of Directors of our association. They include: Michael Brower, Hillcrest CC; E. Paul Eckholm, CGCS, Heritage Links GC; James Johnson, CGCS, Rich Spring GC, and Michael Klatt, CGCS, Elm Creek Golf Links of Plymouth. Congratulations to our new president Jim Nicol, CGCS, Hazeltine National Golf Club, and Tom Fischer, CGCS, Edinburgh USA, vice president. Pat Walton, CGCS, Rolling Green CC, continues for one more year as secretary.

* * * *

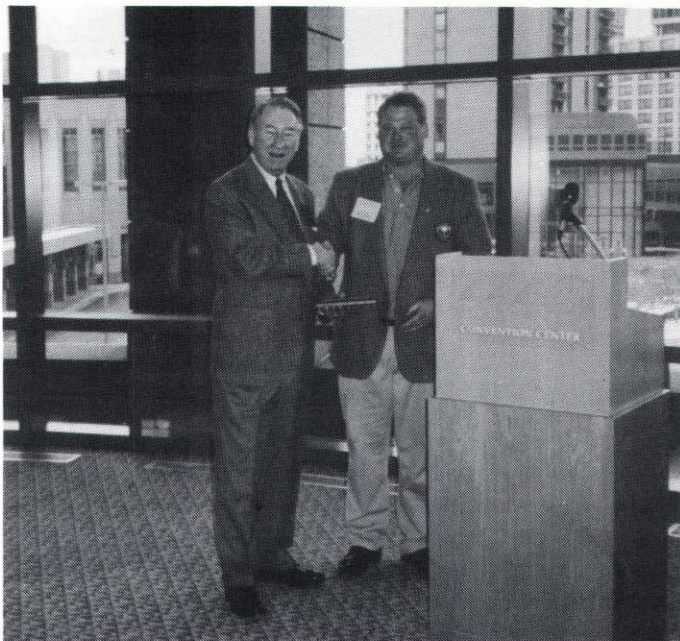
Be sure and look for more articles and pictures throughout this issue from the MTGF Turf Conference and Show. Special thanks to John Queensland and Scott Turtinen for taking pictures. Thank you for the opportunity to serve as editor and look forward to the next two years as treasurer. Just a reminder, *now* is a great time to sit down and pound out an article for *Hole Notes*.

—Rob Panuska
Editor

There's More to Life Than Golf For Golf Course Superintendents in November



Members of the MGCSA enjoyed a successful hunt in Southern Minnesota last November.



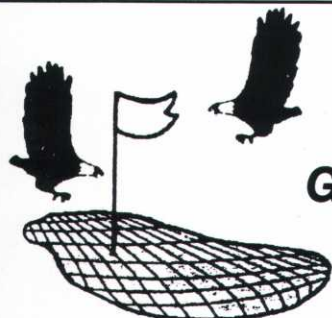
JERRY COMMERS, left, Cushman Motor Co. accepts his 45-year service plaque from Membership Chairman Steve Shumansky.

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