

DURING THE 2001 MTGF CONFERENCE AT THE MINNEAPOLIS CONVENTION CENTER

Jerry Commers and Larry Mueller Receive Distinguished Service Awards



TIM COMMERS, right, accepts a Distinguished Service Award for his late father Jerry Commers from MGCSA out-going president Paul Eckholm, CGCS. Jerry was a member of the MGCSA for over 50 years representing Cushman Motor Co.



LARRY MUELLER, was honored with a Distinguished Service Award for his service and dedication to the turf industry in general and the Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents' Association in particular including the office of president in 1982.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

New Members: November 13, 2001

Shirley Anderson Class
Bayco Golf, Inc.Affiliate - GCSAA
54 Haultain Cres, Winnipeg, MB R3P 1T1
W: 204-633-8881

Clint D. Johnson
Millborn Seeds, Inc.Affiliate
1530 17th Ave. S., Brookings, SD 57006
W: 888-498-7333

New Members: December 18, 2001

Oscar Peterson
Freeport Country Club.....A - GCSAA
1712 Sylum Ct., Freeport, IL 61032
W (815) 275-6726

Kris Smith
Ironman Golf Course.....B - GCSAA (pending)
20664 Cty. Rd. 21, Detroit Lakes, MN 56501
W: 218-847-5592

Karin Stedman
Lost Spur Golf CourseB - GCSAA (pending)
509 Mill St., Cannon Falls, MN 55009
W: 651-253-8014

Brian Elbert
The Summit Golf Club.....C
1051 Ensley Ave., Apt. 45, Northfield, MN 55057
W: 507-263-9291

Nathan Niemela
Rolling Green Country Club.....D
1303 Wagon Wheel Rd., Hopkins, MN 55343
W: 763-478-2179

Matthew Kraft
University of Minnesota/The Minikahda Club.....Student
1018 18th Ave. SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414
W: 612-926-4167

Scott A. Daniels
Pro Turf Systems.....Associate
RR6, Box 25, Thief River Falls, MN 56701
W: 218-435-1882

Steven Reed
Hennepin County/ Parkers Lake Golf.....Associate
6016 Boone Ave. N., New Hope, MN 55428
W: 763-475-4229

Rick Keller
Site Design & Associates, Inc.Affiliate
7810 Brink Dr., Horace, ND 58047
W: 701-232-8440

Joshua Zeithamer
Bio Builder, Inc.....Affiliate
3844 England Rd. SW, Alexandria, MN 56308
W: 866-800-8873

RECLASSIFICATION

Ryan Nelson
The Summit Golf Club.....C to B - GCSAA

*Submitted by Daniel Swenson
Membership Chairman*

History and Integrity—

(Continued from Page 28)

are mowed in the traditional fashion, only too appropriate for a traditional course, this negative perception was accentuated.

Last spring the Green Committee began to pursue the conversion of the abandoned fairways from the crazy mix of grasses to a blend of close cut

Kentucky Bluegrasses. Not only would the height of cut and texture be consistent, but also the deeper color would add contrast to the lighter green of the predominantly Poa fairways.

One of the information resources enlisted was the Turf Net network. Ideas for conversion ranged from growth suppression and heavy over seeding to fumigation with Basimide and reseeded. However the most surefire method of developing a con-

sistent rough was the physical removal of the existing turf and the laying of new sod. Needless to say, a very big project.

And expensive. In fact, the Green Committee went back to the drawing board after they received the bids. However, the project was important and the need for an impressive and guaranteed finished product was deemed the correct thing to do.

A local sod producer with a national reputation was brought on board to do the work. Originally the Glenn Rehbein Companies was going to use their sod harvest machines to strip and roll the grass to be abandoned. However, this would necessitate the creation of haul roads and the use of plastic netting to keep the cut rolls intact for removal to the dumpsite. The roads themselves would have to be restored and the netting would never break down completely.

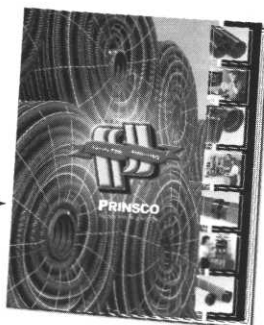
Realizing the challenge, the Glenn Rehbein Companies pursued and bought the Koro Field Top Maker machine, described in Gordon Witteven's Last Word article from April of 2001. This device actually flails, and removes through a conveyor system, the grass and soil off of the area to be resodded. There would be no surface glazing, as found in the sod harvesting process, and the finished product is ready for sodding after a bit of grading with a light landscape planner. Small trucks, less than one ton, are used to haul the debris thus not developing any haul roads. And no plastic netting would be introduced for the removal of the old sod. As a bonus, the material harvested would also, after degradation, create some fine soil for future construction projects.

The North Oaks Board of Directors, while somewhat apprehensive as to the membership response, embraced the Rough Restoration and Renovation Plan. It was directed that the construction commence immediately, with ten holes to be completed this year and the rest of the course next fall. Emphasized as well was the demand

(Continued on Page 33)

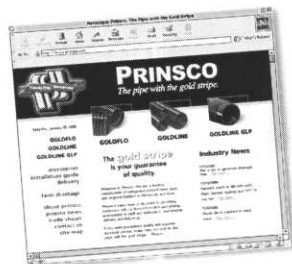
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Effective January 1, 2002 Only Licensed Pesticide Applicators Can Apply Pesticides to Golf Courses

Effective January 1, 2002, only licensed pesticide applicators can apply pesticides to golf course property. This new requirement applies to every golf course in Minnesota and is a significant departure from past pesticide application practices. The Minnesota Pesticide Control Law states:

Minn. Stat. 18B.345 Pesticide Application On Golf Courses.

(a) Application of a pesticide to the property of a golf course must be preformed by: (1) a structural pest control applicator; (2) a commercial or noncommercial pesticide applicator with appropriate use certification; or (3) an aquatic pest control applicator. (b) Pesticide determined by the commissioner to be sanitizers and disinfectants are exempt from the requirements in paragraph (a).

All pesticide applicators must be licensed prior to making pesticide (herbicide, insecticide, fungicide, etc.) applications to golf course property. Golf courses may comply with this new requirement by employing applicators with pesticide applicator licenses that enable them to make pesticide applications for hire (e.g. commercial, aquatic, structural, etc.). Golf courses may also comply by having staff obtain a noncommercial license in the appropriate use categories.

Golf courses that want to get their own staff licensed must identify potential applicators and possible application scenarios, to determine who needs a license and use categories. An applicator applying a pesticide (excluding sanitizers and disinfectants) with hand or ground based equipment must be licensed in Category A (General Ground).

A golf course applicator must also be licensed in one or more additional categories depending upon the target of the pesticide application. Applicators applying herbicides, insecticides or fungicides to course grounds must have a Category A (General Ground) and E (Turf and Ornamentals) license. Other pesticide applications for control of pests in or around structures or water (e.g. aquatic, rodents, mosquitoes, wasps, gophers, etc) require other use categories.

An applicator is not licensed and cannot apply pesticides until all requirements to obtain a license have been met and the applicator's identification card is received. The Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) mails a license identification card after an applicator submits an application form, pays the license fees and passes the closed-book-tests in the appropriate use categories. The University of Minnesota Bookstore at 612/624-9200 sells study materials for the category tests.

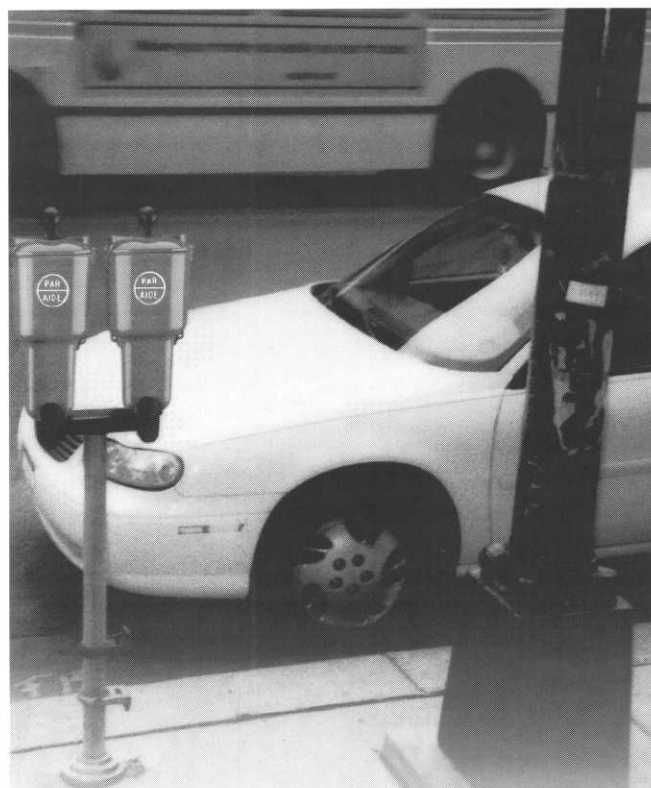
A Noncommercial Pesticide Applicators License application form is enclosed along with a complete list of License Categories on the reverse side. A U of M Pesticide Applicators Study Materials Order Form is also enclosed with a list of MDA Agricultural Chemical Investigators and an area map showing their area of responsibility on the reverse side. A two-sided list of county officials serving as Pesticide Applicator Exam

Contacts is also enclosed. Much of the enclosed information is also available on the MDA web site www.mda.state.mn.us.

Applicators may take certification exams Monday - Friday at our offices in St. Paul; to schedule a test in St. Paul contact Xia Moua at 651/296-5137. Also, MDA Agricultural Chemical Investigators and designated county officials throughout the state offer the exams. Other testing opportunities in the Twin Cities and in greater Minnesota are also available. Arrangement have been made to offer one-time group testing at the locations listed below.

* * * *

Please contact Joseph Spitzmueller with questions about certification, use categories or licensing at the number above or by email at Joseph.Spitzmueller@state.mn.us or contact John Wagner at 651/297-7122 or John.Wagner@state.mn.us.



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The Ants

Excerpts from Destructive Turf Insects

By Harry D. Niemczyk and David J. Shetlar, Ph.D.

More than 600 species of ants occur in North America, some of which inhabit home lawns, golf courses and other turf areas. Generally, ants are beneficial insects, feeding on pest insect eggs, and other insects and whatever they can find.

Though various ant species occur in turf from time to time, two have caused most of the problems - fire ants and the "turfgrass ant." The red imported fire ant was introduced from South America in 1930 and now infests most of the southern states from Oklahoma to North Carolina. In addition to its mound building habits, this ant's stinging and biting behavior against anything that disturbs their mounds is a serious problem. Venom injected from sting causes painful lesions that are slow to heal and may cause allergic reactions.

The turfgrass ant, *Lasius neoniger*, probably occurs over most of the United States. Though beneficial because it feeds on insect eggs and small larvae, this ant is also known for building mounds on golf course tees, greens and fairways which damage turf and mowing equipment.

Other nuisance ants include the leafcutter, harvester and Allegheny mound ants. The leafcutter ant is most common in Texas and Louisiana where it can make large mounds near trees. It often clears trails through turf in order to carry back pieces of tree leaves. Harvester ants are also associated with the arid southwest and the foraging ants also have the habit of clearing trails through turf. The Allegheny mound ants are most common in the northeastern states and they can build large mounds in turf, usually near wood lots. These mounds serve as solar collectors to heat ant larvae and pupae, thereby increasing their developmental rate.

Turfgrass Ant

This species is known as a pest on golf courses from Quebec to Florida, Idaho to Colorado and probably most of the United States. While generally considered a nuisance scavenger, this small brown ant builds 3- to 5-inch diameter mounds of fine sand and soil on tees, greens, fairways and other aesthetically sensitive areas. Frequent mowing flattens the mounds causing the turf to die in small circles. Mounds also dull the blades of mowing equipment. The ant itself does not damage the turf and it is not known as a pest of home lawns.

Life Cycle and Habits. Each colony has multiple subdivisions and many entrances but only one queen which lays eggs that for most of the year produce infertile female work-

ers. In the summer, the queen lays eggs that produce winged males, and others that develop into winged, reproductive females or queens.

In late August, large numbers of the winged forms emerge (swarm) from the colony in a mating flight. After mating, the males die but the females chew off their wings, dig into the soil and develop new nests in golf course fairways or other open grass areas. The first eggs laid by the new queen develop into small workers that collect food for the queen who lays more eggs that develop into normal workers.

*The turfgrass ant, **Lasius neoniger**, is known for building mounds on golf course tees, greens and fairways which damage turf and mowing equipment.*

The ants feed on dead insects, insect eggs, earthworms and any other acceptable food. The food is regurgitated and fed to the queen, young workers and larvae. These ants also collect certain species of aphids, carry them underground and place them on turf roots. The aphids are carefully tended and produce a sweet fluid called honeydew that the ants use as food.

The ants move deeper into the soil in late fall and resume surface activity in early spring (late April). Burrows may extend three feet or more into the soil.

Control. As of the writing of this book, a consistent preventive program for control of this ant had not been developed. Our research has shown that treatments of chlorpyrifos (alone or as a bait formulation) or one of the pyrethroids, such as bifenthrin or deltamethrin, applied as soon as activity begins (late April to early May) suppresses mound construction for 90 days or more. Application of imidacloprid, fipronil, or thiamethoxam with a rapid acting insecticide at first ant activity has suppressed early mound construction and subsequent activity for more than 120 days. Spring application of bifenthrin or imidacloprid suppressed ant mounding 50 to 60% the following spring compared to untreated areas.

Back in Orbit:

Par Aide Re-introduces the Satellite Tee Marker and Water Cooler Station

Par Aide announces that its classic Satellite Tee Marker is back and better than ever. The recently re-designed Satellite Tee Marker has the same weight and shape as the original, but is now constructed of solid ABS plastic.

The Satellite Tee Marker has been one of Par Aide's hallmark products ever since it was first introduced in 1965. The marker was briefly unavailable last year after one of the materials used in manufacturing, compressed wood flour, became unavailable.

Par Aide is confident that with ABS plastic, the Satellite Tee Marker is better than ever. ABS plastic won't split or crack and there's no paint to chip. UV protection makes the markers fade resistant. ABS is also one of the best plastic materials for repainting. And, they float.

The markers are available in all the original colors: red, white, blue, yellow and black.

A Refreshing New Sight on the Golf Course... Par Aide Introduces the Water Cooler Station

Par Aide has recently introduced its Water Cooler Station, a

new product that brings refreshment to players on the course without bringing maintenance headaches to golf course superintendents.

Creating a little oasis out on the course has never been easier. The new Par Aide Water Cooler Station is a two-part stand that holds a water cooler up top and a built-in large capacity trash receptacle below.

Constructed of recycled plastic wood slats over a powder-coated steel frame, the Water Cooler Station offers stability without warping. Double doors make it easy to take the water cooler in and out, and there's plenty of room inside for cup storage. The built-in locking system eliminates the need for bulky padlocks. And, best of all, the Water Cooler Station can be placed anywhere—even up against a wall or fence because the cooler is accessible from the front.

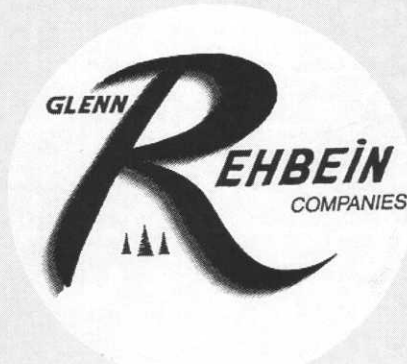
The Water Cooler Station joins the family golf course accessories that Par Aide has been manufacturing for over 45 years. Par Aide products are distributed by authorized dealers to golf courses across the country and around the world. Product information is also available on the company's website, www.paraide.com.

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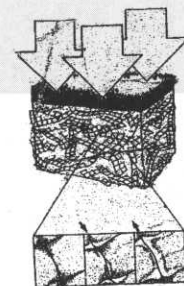
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Drive for the "U" Program

The Drive for the U is a program designed for in-kind donations to the University of Minnesota Turfgrass Research Center. All donations are tax deductible and will help to build the research center into a top notch facility.
Paul Eckholm, CGCS, Heritage Links Golf Club. epeckholm@msn.com

<u>Company/Person</u>	<u>Commitment</u>	<u>Value</u>
Glenn Rehbein Companies	Site Survey	OPEN
Turf Supply Company	Product	OPEN
Hartman	Construction Services	OPEN
Paul Eckholm, CGCS	Rotary Mower	\$200
Plaisted Companies	Materials	OPEN
Eureka Sands	Materials	OPEN
GreenImage	Sprayer	\$1,000
DTN Weather Services	Satellite System	\$1,500
Rick Fredericksen, CGCS	Vacuum	\$800
Rob Panuska	18 Cups	\$325
Century Rain Aid	6 Irrigation Heads	\$950
Miltona Turf Products	Turf Maintenance Tools	\$325
Paul Eckholm, CGCS	Reel Maintenance	OPEN
Hydrologic	Irrigation Materials	\$2,000
Gill Miller Inc.	Design Services	\$3,500
E-Z-Go Golf Cars	Workhorse	\$5,000
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Bonestroo & Assoc.	Design, Construction, Services	OPEN
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Simplot Partners	Fertilizer Products	\$5,000
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Editor's Corner

By Richard Traver, Jr., CGCS
Monticello Country Club

Super Conference!

Putting together a program like we have at the MTGF Annual Turf Conference takes a lot of effort and coordination. So kudos to all those responsible for coordinating the programs for this years MTGF Conference. Special thanks to Larry Vetter, James Bade and Scott Turtinen for the extra effort they personally put in coordinating speakers, session mediators and registration. After talking with other attendees, it seemed as though everyone was very happy with the conference this year.

Great Job Bill

For any of you who were unable to attend the presentation Bill Larson, CGCS made on how he revitalized a creek at Town and Country Club; you missed an excellent presentation. Bill and his staff, did a great job of taking an old area of his golf course and turning it into an integral and very aesthetic part of the course. They did this, incorporating wild flowers, local materials and nature. The project was done very professionally and when finished really looked fantastic. If you get the opportunity, call Bill, I am sure he would love to share the experience with other supts. Thanks for participating in the conference.

Congratulations Norma

Norma O'Leary, CGCS, won the Watson award for the best article in our associations publication this year. But in case you hadn't heard she has also been asked for permission from the GCSAA and Golf Course Management to reprint the article in their publication. So look for her byline in an upcoming issue of GCM. As a side, just to let you know what a super person Norma is, GCM gave her a cash stipend for reprinting her article, she donated the money to the clubhouse @ Silver Bay for the purchase of a Television.

Thanks Paul & Congrats Rick

I would like to personally than Paul Eckholm, CGCS for all the effort he has put in as President of our association for the past two years.

Congratulations also to Rick Fredrickson, CGCS for his election as president. As well as all the newly positioned members and new members to the Board. I look forward to continuing my association with this great group of people.

Jerry Commers

Long time member and friend of the MGCSA Jerry Commers past away in November. Jerry was 77, had been a



NORMA O'LEARY WAS THE 2001 RECIPIENT of the MGCSA's Watson Award for best member-generated article printed in Hole Notes. Her insightful article on the pressures of labor shortages was entitled "Dealing with Labor Shortages."

member of the MGCSA since 1951 and had been the President of Cushman Motor Co. for 52 years. He will surely be missed. Our best wishes go out to Tim Commers and his family.

Member Participation

Member participation is what makes an association great. We have so many talented people in our association that seem to be hiding under rocks. If you have had a positive experience on your course, through daily activities or in a big project, let the others know. Write an article, or make a presentation at the conference. People are always willing to listen and learn.

Happy Holidays

My wife Barb, my daughter Maggie and I wish that you all have an enjoyable but safe New Year!

MGCSA CALENDAR

Tuesday, January 22

Problems and Solutions:

Using Annuals and Perennials In the Golfscape

*Instructors: Dean Bemis and Larry Houser
Radisson South Hotel / Bloomington, Minn.*

Wednesday, January 23

**Bentgrass Management
And Rootzone Maintenance**

*Instructor: Milt Engelke, Ph.D.
Radisson South Hotel / Bloomington, Minn.*

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