



Special Golf Outing Edition

TOOL TALK

A Publication of the Michigan Tooling Association

A Tribute to The Michigan Tooling Association's 68th Golf Outing



Clockwise from top L: Golfers check in before tee-off; Putting contest finalists (L-R): Mike Bishop of AG Davis, Kevin Hess of AHB Tool, Jim Mink for Autodie Int'l; MTA Board of Directors Rob Peuterbaugh of JPT (far L) & Gerald Flannery of Mercury Gage (next L) greet guests; Tee Time!; Danielle Dumont tries out the Hummer; Richard Heidrich of Richard Tool & Die ready to golf; Center: Synergy Steel guest wins hockey puck signed by Sergei Federov

MTA Thanks Its Athletic Supporters (no pun intended)

by: Rob Dumont, Managing Director

According to those in attendance, the 68th Annual Golf Outing was a great success. This year, for the first time, the event was opened to sponsors, and sponsors were permitted to partake in the festivities.

Sponsorship enabled the Association to offer some truly spectacular prizes, added an air of excitement, injected some adventure and in the end, made for a great day.

We think it only fitting that in this *Special Edition of Tool Talk*, we recognize the special efforts our sponsors put into the event and ask that you, the members, patronize and support them whenever possible during the coming year.



Jefferson Chevrolet certainly went above and beyond in stepping up to the tee as it were. The new Corvette that was on the scene was transported from the dealership, and in addition they had on hand four very competitive members of the dealership. It may be of some interest to you to know that Jefferson Chevrolet has a proud history of some 65 years of service to the automotive needs of Detroit and its surrounding areas. And, by the way, they have an outstanding facility available to assess, service and supply your commercial vehicle needs.

Personally, I can vouch for their friendliness, service and attention to detail. I have purchased from them and have referred friends and family to their dealership, always with very satisfactory results.

Unlike many of their competitors, Jefferson Chevrolet has on site the Trader Ray Tire Center, Detroit's largest 35-year Commercial Truck Tire Dealer, specializing in 24 hour road service for fleet needs and trucks of all sizes.

Jefferson and Trader Ray stepped up to the tee for MTA, did not hesitate to agree to sponsor the outing and I believe our members should and hopefully will, keep them in mind when considering their automotive and tire needs.

Give Jefferson a call at (313) 259-1200; you too will have a positive experience.

Trader Ray tells me that "Anyone can sell you a tire, but very few will promise you excellent service". So, try them! Anytime - 24/7 - (313) 568-0661.



As a sponsor of the MTA golf outing, Federated Insurance is recharged and ready to assist the Michigan Tooling industry in 2003. Federated Insurance is currently an A+ (Superior) rated A.M. Best company with over 20 marketing representatives throughout the state of Michigan. Highly trained Federated Marketing Representatives use the "Machine Pac II", to tailor your individual insurance needs at competitive prices. Property, Liability, Auto and Umbrella insurance along with risk management services are what Federated Insurance has specialized in for nearly 100 years. Currently, over 115 machine shops in Michigan use Federated Insurance and have found the comprehensive coverage and value-added services to be competitively priced.

Federated Insurance is the recommended insurance carrier for the MTA. Contact your local Federated Marketing Representative to see how they can assist you with your insurance needs. Enclosed with this special issue is a list of the Michigan marketing force of Federated reps, their home towns and phone numbers.



For those who made the "turn", and most did, lunch was available and provided by Freedom One Financial Group, the MTA's endorsed 401(k) Plan provider. Certainly, over the past several months, MTA 401(k) plan participants have had the opportunity to get to know Freedom One Financial and many have elected to use them going forward for their plan needs.

The plan for the MTA staff itself is managed by Freedom One and the service has been most satisfactory. As periodic contributors to *Tool Talk*, Freedom One will continue to become more familiar to our members, and we would ask that you consider Freedom One in planning your "One Source for Financial Freedom" - (248) 641-7525.



Many of our members use the services of John M. Packer & Associates when Unemployment Compensation Specialists are needed. MTA and Packer have had a long-standing relationship and we were most pleased to have them as a sponsor of the golf outing.

This may not be the best place for statistics, but the fact is that in the year from January 2002 to January 2003, Packer & Associates processed 3445 claims for MTA members; and in doing so, generated savings totaling \$1,227,138.29. Need more be said?

If greater encouragement than the aforementioned savings is

needed, we would, without hesitation, encourage you to call on Packer & Associates to get your "Unemployment Compensation" house in order at (800) 482-2971.



Comerica Bank was pleased to be a sponsor of the event and MTA was most pleased to have their support. Banks, they're everywhere! But, Comerica was at the outing and has had a long relationship with MTA. You have no doubt heard and seen their ads. We would ask that you give them a try - we did and we are pleased with the results!



Many of you are familiar with our sponsor, **Fortis Insurance**, through another of our sponsors, the MTA Insurance Agency. Fortis did all the legwork and arranged to have the Hummer brought on site for the outing. Like the rest of us, Fortis was disappointed that they also had to arrange for the return of the Hummer to the dealership. Hopes were high that one of the participants would have undertaken the task of driving the Hummer home. But, alas, it was not to be! Not this year anyway. Who knows, maybe next time!

Let it be known as well that Fortis Insurance paid the freight, as it were, for the policy of insurance that covered the three grand prizes: the \$1,000,000; the Corvette; and the Hummer - should someone have sunk a hole-in-one during the contest stage. Come on, surely you didn't think MTA was going to foot the bill for any one of those, much less all of them. Thank you Fortis!



The golfers and diners saw the name **Raymond & Prokop** on the signage, and some may even have met members of the firm at the outing. In addition to being sponsors, Raymond and Prokop is a full service law firm of some 42 skilled attorneys. Highly professional and service oriented, hope you never need them but, if you do (or think you do - its easier to stay out of trouble than to get out of trouble), these are good people to call at (248) 357-3010.

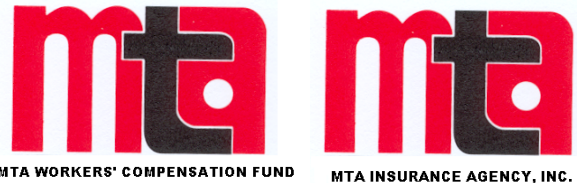


Perhaps the most widely known of our sponsors is **Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan**. In insurance there is the "could," the "should," and the "must"; BCBSM is certainly in the latter category in terms of the nature of coverage. While they were sponsors, it is fair to say we all hope that your actual need for coverage will be, at worst, minimal.



WE'RE ALL ABOUT SAFE WORK ENVIRONMENTS

Those members who are in the MTA Workers' Compensation program are more likely better acquainted with our sponsor, **BDN Industrial Hygiene Consultants Inc.**, than are the rest of the members. However, if you read *Tool Talk*, you will have seen the periodic articles contributed by BDN. We want to thank BDN for their sponsorship and we look forward to a long relationship.



Last, but certainly not least, come the **MTA Workers' Compensation Fund** and the **MTA Insurance Agency**. Gary Wood, the Fund Administrator, worked tirelessly to assist us in terms of time, input and wisdom, not to mention a great 27" TV set. And we would be entirely remiss if we failed to acknowledge Bob Easterbrook of **East-Lind Heat Treat**, who has been unwavering in his support of the golf outing, the MTA and the entire industry. East-Lind also provided a 27" TV set as a major prize. Members of MTA who do not presently take advantage of the MTA Workers' Compensation Fund would serve themselves well to contact Gary Wood at (248) 488-1172. Gary will be able to detail the many advantages available to you.

Mark Tyler, the Manager of the MTA Insurance Agency, did a terrific job as MC of the dinner portion of the outing and directed the gift distribution and drawings. Just one of Mark's many skills - you should give him a call so he can assist with any needs you may have in the health, disability or life insurance arenas. Mark can be reached at (248) 489-8505.

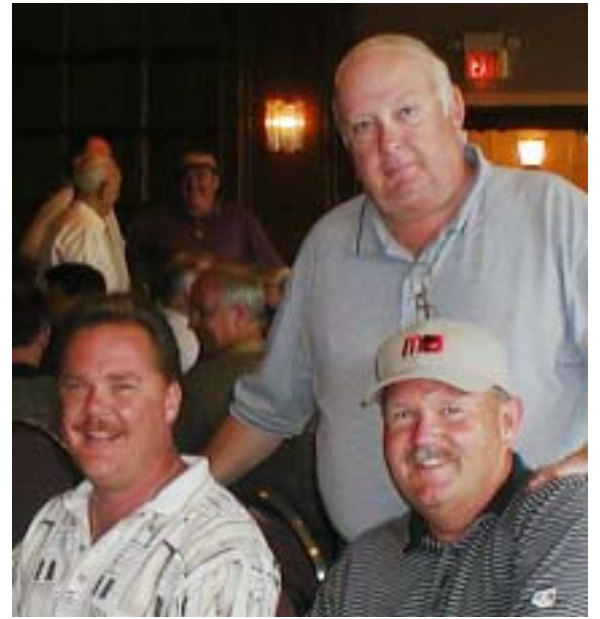
We would also like to extend our thanks to the gift contributors, general supporters and the MTA staff that attended and worked so hard to make it a pleasant day for all:

- Action Benefits Co.**
- American Solutions for Business**
- Carl's Chophouse**
- Cherry Creek Golf Club**
- Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center**
- General Motors**
- ManageAbility, Inc.**
- Pizza Papalis**
- Sinbads At-The-River**
- Wolverine Golf Club, and**
- Woodlands of VanBuren Golf Club.**

Our heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed to the success of this 68th Annual Golf Outing, including the weatherman.



Clockwise from top L: Craig Brass signs his book 'How to Quit Golf'; Having a Good Time!; Karen Vermiglio for T&W Tool & Die shows off her prize as she did her golf form on the course; Ho-Hummer!!; Atlas Tool & guests; Autodie Int'l & guests; Neal Easterbrook of East-Lind Heat Treat with his golf prize; MTA staff - Elaine, Ron, & Pat



Clockwise from top L: Superior Cam & guests; T & W Tool & Die & guests; hors d'oeuvre table; Superior Cam & guests; golfers taking a break; North Tool & guests; Gentlemen, Start Your Engines!!; Vroom, Vroom!! Corvette from Jefferson Chevrolet



MTA Golf Outings - A Retrospective

MTA was founded in 1933 (formerly known as the Automotive Tool & Die Manufacturers Association, then as the Detroit Tooling Association) and in 1935 hosted its first annual golf outing/party/dinner, which was attended by approximately 1500 persons, making it a summer hit from the get-go.

Through the following decades, it has continued to be the seasonal highlight each June for Association members and their guests. It has featured at various times: golfing at a club of the members' own choosing (due to the large turnout of golfers); dinner; entertainment & floor shows; prizes and raffles; and full-day golf outings. This year represented the 68th annual outing, making it one of the longest, (if not the longest), continuous golfing events in Michigan, perhaps even in the entire U.S. (except for New Jersey).

In the 70's, the golf outing became a dazzling melange of prizes set up like jewels at the Raleigh House in Southfield and included such items as a horse, a kayak, a hang-glider, racing bicycles, and an AKC registered bloodhound, along with the requisite large TVs, luggage and sets of clubs, that have become a hallmark of the event. During those years, the Association's Annual Business Meeting was held in conjunction with the golf outing, sometimes with several hundred members in attendance. After the party itself, many members would stay to play cards and reminisce.

In the early 1980's, the golf outing became a virtual extravaganza "under the Big Top" at the Pontiac Silverdome, replete with elephants (okay, maybe pink *papier-mache* elephants), organ-grinder dancing monkeys, clowns and raffles to win a brand-new car of your choice from the Big Three. From time to time, a local celebrity was known to make an appearance, most notably Norm Cash of the Detroit Tigers.

The golf outing was hosted at other various popular locales, including Roma's of Bloomfield, the Burton Manor in Livonia and the Glen Oaks Golf & Country Club in Farmington, and featured themes such as a Hawaiian luau, celebrity look-a-likes and the "money" machine - a wind-tunnel phone booth-like contraption, in which members were ensconced to catch as much money as they could as it flew through the machine.

Then in 1994, the Board of Directors decided that the outing should become a true sporting event for the golf aficionados in the membership and the Association began setting up a full-day of golf at a couple golf & country clubs that could accommodate our numbers, the Wolverine Golf Club in Macomb and Fox Hills in Plymouth. Members golfed in teams of four, shot-

gun style, with continental breakfasts during sign-in, lunch and drinks on the course, and putting contests with special prizes such as this year's \$1 million, a Corvette and a Hummer (a bumper there were no winners - but as Lee Trevino said, "putts get real difficult the day they hand out the money" - so start practicing for next year). Dinner and prizes - lots of golf-related gifts - finished out these truly remarkable days.

As the Association goes into its 8th decade, we are confident there will be many more exciting golf outings and hope more of our members will partake of the festivities. And remember, "As you walk down the fairway of life, you must smell the roses, for you only get to play one round." (Ben Hogan)



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