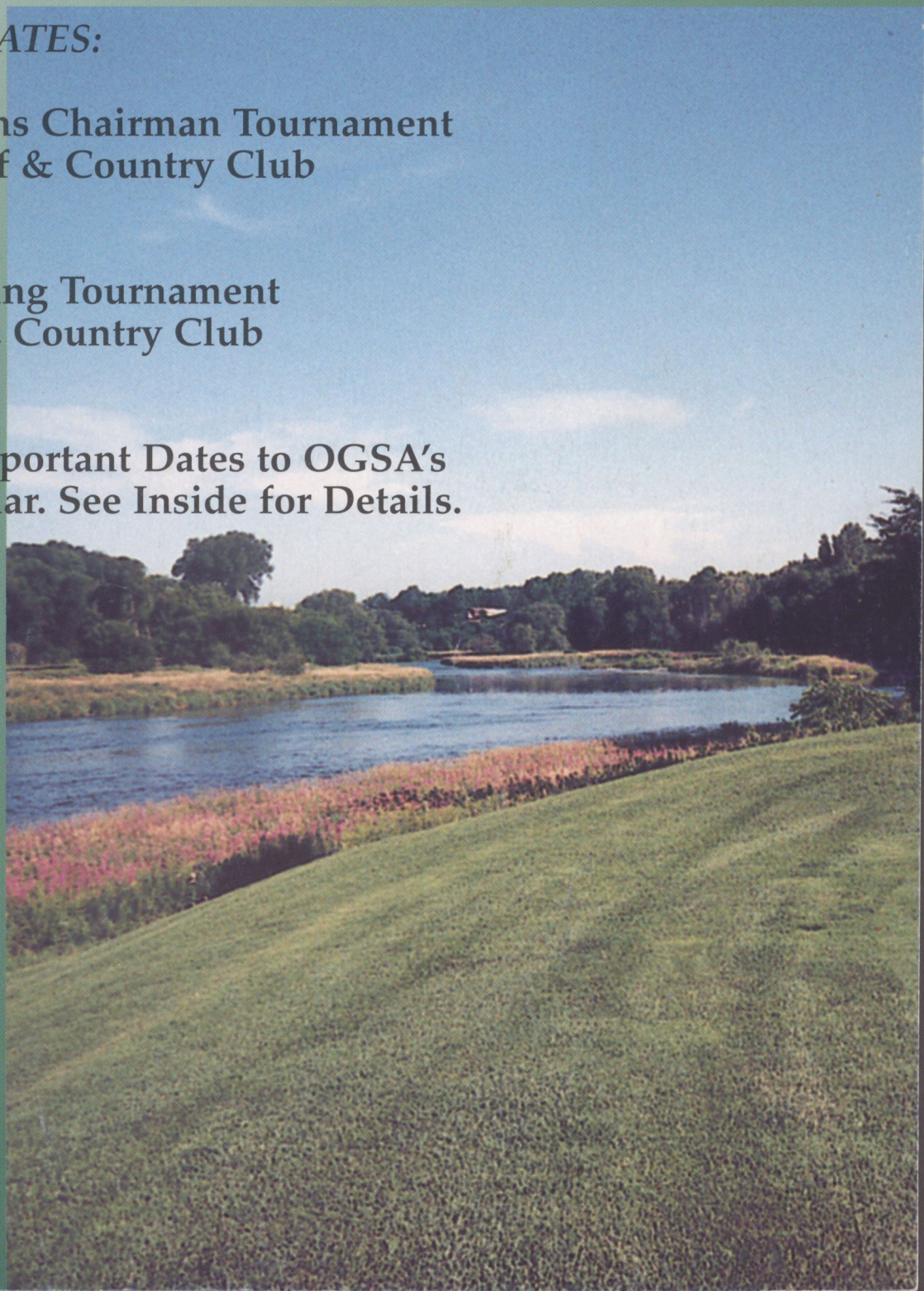


Green is Beautiful

The Official Publication of Ontario Golf Superintendents Association

IMPORTANT DATES:

- President, Greens Chairman Tournament
St. Georges Golf & Country Club
July 27th, 1998.
- OTRF Fundraising Tournament
Bayview Golf & Country Club
August 10, 1998.
- Submit Your Important Dates to OGSA's
Industry Calendar. See Inside for Details.



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Green is Beautiful

The Official Publication of Ontario Golf Superintendents Association

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JUNE EDITION 1998

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editor's comments



It's the June issue and it feels like August. Green is beautiful is fortunate to have Gord Witteveen from the Board of Trade Golf Club, Peter Kinch from Emerald Hills, Barry Endicott from Nobleton Lakes and Doug Breene from Caledon Golf Club on as regular contributors to our newsletter.

The O.G.S.A. has started a schedule of events in the newsletter for all industry affiliated events seminars and meetings. Please call Dorthy at the O.G.S.A. or Dean Baker at Glen Abbey Golf Club to have your material included. Please contribute! A picture and a written paragraph of anything happening on your golf course may be a solution for someone else.

The O.T.R.F. fundraising tournament is at the Bayview Golf and Country Club this year hosted by Tom Charters on August 10, 1998. Please mark this date on your calendar and plan to attend.

The O.G.S.A. conducted two very successful events in April & May. The Border Cities event and Pro/Super event were well attended, look for details inside.

Mark Piccolo
Newsletter Editor

Green is Beautiful 1998

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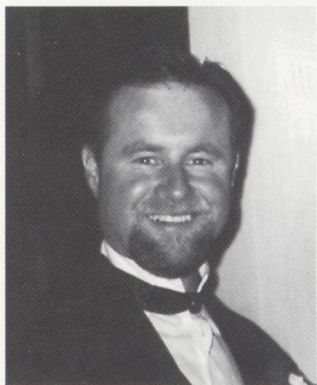
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president's message

Making a Contribution



Green is Beautiful, our Association magazine continues to be our voice within our industry. Our magazines success depends upon membership involvement, through the submission of articles and pictures. Articles within Green is Beautiful, deal with problems faced by superintendents and golf facilities on a daily basis.

Members enjoy reading about real life experiences of fellow superintendents. Has your Club undergone course renovations, built a new Clubhouse or Maintenance facility? Have you put your own twist on an age old maintenance practice? All of these issues and others too make for interesting reading and the sharing of thoughts and ideas.

Making a contribution to Green is Beautiful ensures our voice within the industry is valid and strong. The sharing of thoughts and ideas improves our value and professional image.

O.G.S.A. President
Ian Bowen

avoid age bias

Prevention: To avoid being involved in age bias litigation, golf course owners should steer clear of these practices:

- Assuming that older superintendents lack certain skills and knowledge of modern technology.
- Replacing older superintendents with younger ones based on age alone.
- Engaging in age-related humor or banter in the workplace.

Policy: The Federal Age Discrimination in Employment Act (ADEA) bans discrimination based on age against any employee or job applicant who is 40 years of age and older. Employers must also keep in mind that the law in their particular state may set a lower age limit at which the age bias laws apply.

Caution: Disciplining older employees more severely than their younger counterparts who were guilty of comparable infractions is also considered age bias.

Opportunity: Experience does not count. Consider the five ways employers benefit from a superintendent's experience.

Continued on page 8

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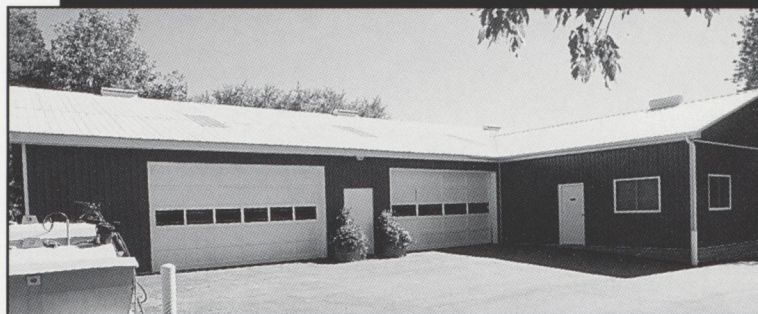


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Here are some snippets

by Gordon Witteveen, Board of Trade Golf Club

USGA agronomist David Oatis paid a visit to the Board of Trade golf course this past spring. His subsequent report contained much valuable information some of which I will share with my colleagues in the OGSA.

SNOWMOLD: We rarely apply preventative snow mold treatments to our greens and tees and again in the fall of 1997 we followed our usual practice of relying solely on organic fertilizer application to assure good greens in the spring. It worked for most greens but two greens got hit hard by snowmold, both were in shady locations. Oatis recommended that we do extensive tree pruning to reduce shade and improve air circulation. He also suggested that we treat these potential problem green with a preventative fungicide. We plan to follow his advice.

PROBLEM GREENS: The 11th green on the Board of Trade West course has been a thorn in my side since I arrived at the Board 26 years ago. I have suffered through summers of anemic grass and have rebuilt the green several times. Just four years ago American Architect Arthur Hills came up with a new design and Evans built yet another version of the infamous 11th. It certainly was an improvement but the turf is still not



of the same quality as the other greens. Oatis stated that new greens take from 5-7 years before they are comparable in quality to the greens on the rest of the course. He urged to be on guard for stressful conditions: A combination of warm, overnight temperatures, a sudden downpour and heavy play, almost always result in the problem green taking a beating. When such conditions occur, Oatis suggested that the green in question be taken out of play for a period of 24-48 hours to save the turf. He also recommends the use of the new silent fans. We have gone one step further and built a small alternate green of good quality nearby, just in case we want to give the 11th a rest for a day or two.

BUNKER FACES: We have been cutting our steep bunkers faces quite short to accommodate golfers who prefer to play from sand rather than be lodged in long grass. Oatis suggest that we raise the height of cut and that we try to establish fescue grasses on the steep slopes. Removing the sand that piles onto grass is best done with power brooms or water pressure.

The yearly visit of an USGA agronomist is well worth the expense. It's like being tutored privately for a whole day and no one is ever too old to learn.

ONTARIO GOLF NEWS: My monthly column on the back page of Ontario Golf News is now into its 15th year. I have never missed an issue nor a deadline. Publisher Ken MacKenzie likes it that way and fondly refers to me as his Allan Fotheringham, praise that I do not deserve. Many of you have called me with newsworthy items. Some have even asked me to play golf, an invitation that I find difficult to refuse. Please keep the information coming. I know from the positive feedback that I receive that the readers of Golf News like to hear about Superintendents and golf course maintenance. You may not always agree with what I write and advocate, but rather than criticizing me silently, why not send me some useful information that will be of benefit to everyone. The most efficient way to reach me is via E-mail: greens@bot.com. I am looking forward to hear from everyone, not just from my former assistants.



BASEBALL

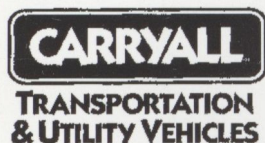
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A survey conducted by Kenneth A. Kovach, Ph.D., of George Mason University in Fairfax, Va., compared what employees desired in a job versus what managers believed their employees wanted. The survey rated the following desires on a scale of 1 (most important) to 10!

	Employee want	Managers think employees want
Interesting Work	1	5
Appreciated for work done	2	8
Feeling of being "in on things"	3	10
Job security	4	2
Good wages	5	1
Promotions/growth opportunities	6	3
Good working conditions	7	4
Personal loyalty to workers	8	6
Tactful disciplining	9	7
Sympathetic help with personal problems	10	9

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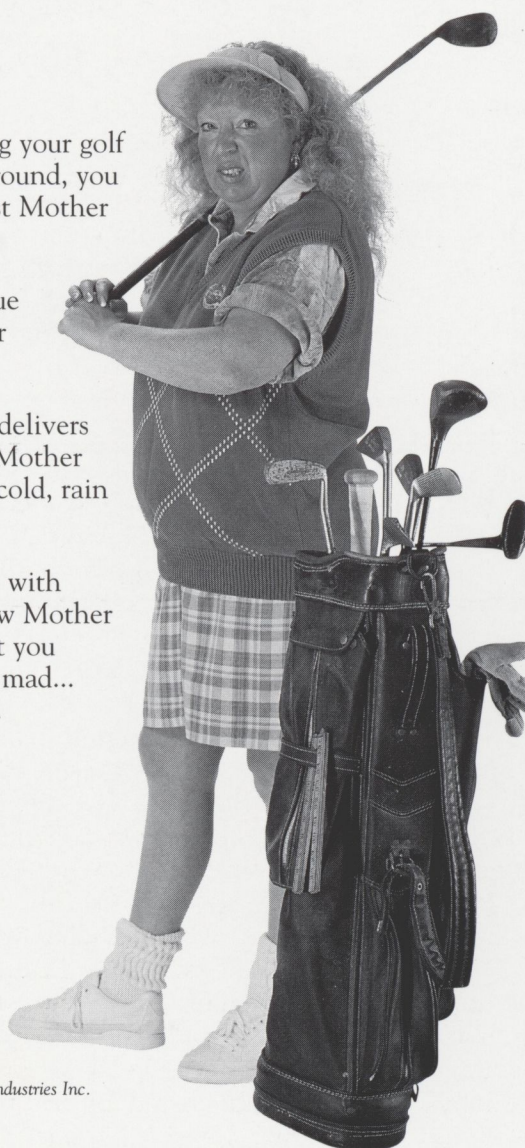
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Working Hard at Communicating

Successful working relationships between golf superintendents and their employers, facility committees, other managers and golfers are the result of quality communications and hard work.

Quality communication should be:

- Consistent
- Professional
- Timely

Important: A proactive role by the superintendent is key to taking advantage of such obvious communication opportunities as board meetings and management meetings. During such opportunities, superintendents should:

- Be prepared
- Anticipate what issues may arise
- Offer solutions
- Listen and understand all requests made of them
- Be sure they can deliver on all commitments that they made

Note: Less obvious communication opportunities are just as important. These may occur when superintendents are playing periodic rounds of golf, working on the golf course or receiving a request from a golfer.

Remember: Identifying, cultivating and expanding communication opportunities will result in good relationship. For the best results, superior communication should be a vital, daily objective for the golf course owner, golf course superintendent and the entire facility's staff.

Source: Bill Womac, CGCS, Dunwoody Country Club, Dunwoody, Ga.

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twenty years ago today

by Barry Endicott
Nobleton Lakes Golf Club

The Board of Directors for 1983 of the OGSA was Rusty Warkman (pres.), Oshawa, Al Draper (vice.), Greenhills, Bob Brewster (past), Weston, Robert Kennedy, Garden City, Barry Endicott (newsletter editor) Chinguacousy, Bill Fach, Essex, Gordon Nimmo, Sarnia, John Hutchinson, Warkworth, Thom Charters, Islington, Hugh Kirkpatrick, Westmount, Paul Scenna, Galt and Tom Simpson, Newcastle.

On the move: Rhod Trainer moved to St. Thomas from Chippewa G. C., Ron Heesen (assistant) from the Board of Trade to Beach Grove, Mark Hagen, (assistant) Greenhills to Wyldewood G. C. and John Smith from Wyldewood to Kawartha. Kim Hanley moved from Brooklea Golf Club (assistant) to Blue Mountain Golf Club, Dave Chapman moved from Victoria Park to Glendale.

New members: Donald Gefucia, Barrie, Rhod Trainer, St. Thomas, Doug Meyer, Cedarbrook, Gord Walkinshaw, Toronto Ladies, Paul Weidmark, IBM, Tom Kenyon, Southern Pines, Robbie Robinson, Hidden Lakes, Manny Figueredo, Richview, Arthur Trumble, Katchiwano, John Lockie, Lockwood, David Gurd, Maple Ridge, Howard Anyan, Bowmanville, Peter Creighton, Castlemore, Joseph Hahn, Delhi, Lloyd Thatcher, Victoria Park, Gary Gavett, Saugeen, Robert Dioxin, Pine Crest, Bruce Jones, Belleville, John McCallum, Strathroy, William Kivi, Glenview, Dave Suter, Richview, Ken Green, North Bay.

The 13th Annual Management Symposium was held on January 11th at the University of Guelph. This symposium has really grown with 260 golf course personnel registering. Jim Wyllie, Bayview, Rusty Warkman, Oshawa, Prof. Sheard, Univ. of Guelph, David Gourlay, Thornhill, and Prof. Lee Burpee, Univ. of Guelph were on the speakers programme.

On November 25th, Gord Witteveen hosted many superintendents to a day of fellowship called the William Samson Day. William Samson, was the founding father and first president of the OGSA. Together with his fellow greens keepers, Bert Hawkins of Lakeview and "Smiling Dad" Howard Lloyd of Rosedale, they laid the cornerstones for our present organization at a meeting in October 1924 at the Weston Golf Club. Others present were: Joe Stanfield, Mississauga, Chris Freeman, Toronto Hunt, Jack Abbot, Islington, Frank Hamm, Royal York, Bill Austin, Humber Valley, Jim McCullough, Scarboro, Fred Haines, Summit and Bill Chinery, York Downs. The CGSA Turfgrass Conference and Show was held

in Edmonton on March 13th-16th. Before the conference some superintendents, Ron Heesen, Bob Heron, Gord Witteveen, Ken Olsvik, Dave Keith and Barry Endicott met on the ski hills in Banff before attending the seminars. The hospitality was super with the Edmonton Eskimo cheerleaders leading the way at the Monday night hospitality party. The east hockey team beat the west team 7 to 5 at the Edmonton Coliseum, which was donated by the city of Edmonton and Wayne Gretsky and few other Oilers paid a visit to the dressing room after the game to learn a few tips. Dave Gourlay won the Score Magazine Award as the 1983 Top Canadian Golf Course Superintendent.

The GCSAA Conference was held from February 19-25 in Atlanta Georgia. Jim Wyllie, Bayview, and Gord Witteveen were on the speaker's programme.

There was an OGSA/OTRF meeting at Thornhill Country Club on March 13 hosted by Dave Gourlay. After the speakers, curlers took to the ice with the winning team of Bob Cherry, Tom Murphy and Jack Austin defeating Paul Scenna, Paul Dermott and Paul White.

There were meetings held at Kawartha Golf Club, John Smith, St. Catherines Golf and Country Club, John Piccolo, Roseland, Randy Hooper, St. Claire Parkway, John O'Rae. The Galt Field Day was held at the Galt Country and a set of Golf Clubs was presented to Clay Switzer by the OGSA. Stew Picken and Blake McMaster won the Clayton Switzer Trophy and low individual scores were Bruce Burger (73), Dalewood, Bruce Vollet (75), Conestoga, Warren Vout (77), Whitevale and Bill Bowen (78) Peterborough. The Superintendent Pro Tournament was held at Islington Golf Club hosted by Thom Charters. The winning team was Ken Wright and Ben Kern, National, and low superintendent was Robbie Robinson (78), Hidden Lake. The 10th Annual President Superintendent Greens Chairman Tournament was held at Essex, host Bill Fach, and the winning teams were Blake McMaster (105) Brampton, Rhod Trainor (104), St. Thomas and Bob Heron (103) Mississauga. The OTRF held it's 4th annual golf tournament at the National, Ken Wright, with a barbecue at The Board of Trade, Gordon Witteveen. Bruce Calhoun was low gross with a 75.

A tornado hit Doon Valley Golf Club on May 2 where 183 trees were torn out of the ground. Gord Witteveen had a hole in one in August, Ron Heesen and Bob Brewster got married and Ken Nelson was recovering from a serious cancer operation.

border cities tournament

Keith Bartlett, Thornhill Golf & Country Club
OGSA Golf and Meetings Director

The Border Cities Tournament was held on Monday, April 27, 1998 at the Country Club of Detroit in Detroit, Michigan. The host superintendent Mr. Mark Jackson had the golf course in great shape and it was a treat to play on the greens that were recently renovated and over seeded to A4 bentgrass. The recent renovations were designed by Rees Jones but the presence of the original architect H.S. Colt was still evident.

Though the golf swing was not in mid season form, the sunny skies and great golf course made for an enjoyable day. From the 112 participants some took home prizes for their efforts. Kelly Barnet of Pointe West Golf Club and Chris Andrejicka of Essex Golf Club were closest to the pin on holes #8 and #13. Bob Heron of Beacon Hall Golf Club was low net Canadian and Paul Dermott of Oakdale Golf Club was part of the winning low net foursome. The Can-Am trophy is presented to the Association with the lowest four gross

score total. Ray Mannion, Bob Heron, Robbie Robinson and Thom Charters represented our association well with a total score of 328 but were edged out by a few shots by the American team of Aaron McMaster, Lowell Weaver, Mike Fagan, and Trey Rogers.

After golf, a presentation by a local dermatologist educated us on the dangers of overexposure to the sun and the need to use the proper sunscreen and other protective techniques. Our occupation makes it impossible not to be exposed to the sun, hence it is very important to protect oneself.

The O.G.S.A. would like to thank the Greater Detroit Chapter, particularly Rick Murphy and Mike Jones who found a golf course to play and arranged for the speaker. Also, thank you to everyone who participated in this event and we look forward to another full field at the 1999 Border Cities Tournament to be held in Ontario.

5 Ways Experience Adds Value

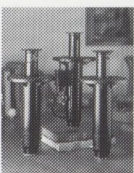
1. **Crisis Management.** An experienced superintendent is familiar with the uncontrollables and can prepare for them. Problems may be identified earlier and responses implemented earlier, which can lessen their impact.
2. **Attention to Detail.** Less experienced superintendents may not be as familiar with golf with golf course maintenance practices and may need to concentrate their efforts there. Thus, they may possibly overlook the importance of consistent attention to course details.
3. **Management Ability.** Supervising even a small crew tests the management ability of superintendents. Generally, more experienced superintendents have developed effective strategies to help manage their time and their crew. Understanding the complexities of financial and risk management may also come with experience.
4. **Business Decisions.** More experience helps to make the right decision the first time, limiting the cost of rework and recovering from failure. Experience generally helps to focus on the long view, rather than constantly putting out fires.
5. **Trust.** As manager of the most important asset of the golf facility, trust is critical. A trusting relationship comes with a proven track record of meeting expectations. An experienced superintendent has that track record.

Source: Does Experience Count, Jan./Feb. 1997 Leader Board.

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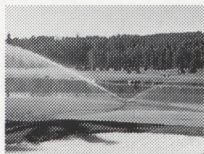
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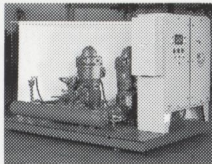
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what are you planning

ONTARIO GOLF SUPERINTENDENTS' ASSOCIATION

TELL US WHAT YOU'RE PLANNING!

As you know, the golf industry in Ontario is very active. There are an increasing number of organizations holding seminars, golf days and other functions. Often there are event conflicts. Two events on the same day or even in the same week usually result in poor attendance. Why waste all that hard work and planning?

The OGSA would like to offer a Master Calendar as a new service to our members. The calendar will be published in Green is Beautiful and will contain a listing of all events scheduled for the upcoming months. The OGSA will be contacting all the organizations that regularly host events during the year so that we can provide an accurate picture of activities. The Master Calendar will be invaluable for users and organizers.

Access to the Master Calendar is free to all OGSA members. All we require is your input. Please let us know about any event you have planned for this coming season. We want to get the word out. You can contact the OGSA office with all dates and details. Call, fax or email, at any time during the year, and your event will be printed in the next issue of Green is Beautiful. OGSA Office Phone: (519) 824-6472, Fax: (519) 766-1704, Email (ogsa@gti.uoguelph.ca)

We hope you take advantage of this service so that we can all make the most of what our industry has to offer.

OGSA Board of Directors

P.S. You can also fax the information directly to:
Dean Baker (Course Superintendent)
Glen Abbey Golf Club
Fax: (905) 844-1163

ASSOCIATION...DATE...EVENT & PLACE AS OF MAY 13TH, 1998

MAY	O.G.A.	May 14th	Better Ball..Oakdale G & CC
	O.G.A.	May 16 - 18th	Peterborough Jr. Tour..Peterborough CC
	O.G.A.	May 20 - 22nd	Mid-Amateur..Bridgewater GC
	O.G.A.	May 27 - 30th	Match Play..Devil's Paintbrush Golf Assoc
	G.B.S.A.	May 28th	Circled Pine..Austin Peddle
	G.L.A.G.S.	May 28th	Talbot Park Golf
JUNE	SENECA	June 4th	Preparing Your Course for Summer Stesses..Seneca
	W.O.G.S.A.	June 8th	98 Season Meeting...Chippewa Creek
	R.C.G.A.	June 15 - 21st.	AT&T Seniors..Glencoe G.C. Alberta
	G.L.A.G.S.	June 18th	Cast Park Golf
	O.G.A.	June 22nd	Senior Champion..Thornhill CC
	G.B.S.A.	June 23rd	Shelburne Golf Club..John Bontic
	O.G.A.	June 29th	Champion of Champions..Westmount G&CC

ASSOCIATION...DATE...EVENT & PLACE AS OF MAY 13TH, 1998

JULY	SENECA	July 2nd	G.C.T. Tournament..Diamond Back G.C.
	McCRACKEN	July 4th	Baseball for GC Staff & Suppliers..Turner Park, Hamilton
	O.G.A.	July 6 - 10th	Amateur Champtionship..Beacon Hall
	G.L.A.G.S.	July 9th	River Road Golf
	OMAFRA/UofG	July 14th	Microscopic Disease Diagnosis for Turf
	W.C.T.A.	July 14th	Research/Supplier Field Day..Westwood Plateau GC
	O.G.A.	July 14 - 17th	Junior/Juvenile..Hawk Ridge G.C.
	O.G.A.	July 15 - 16th	Bantam Championship..Circles Pine GC
	W.O.G.S.A.	July 20th	98 Season Meeting..Craigowan CC
	G.B.S.A.	July 21st	Orillia Lake St. George..Greg Louth
	O.G.A.	July 23rd	Junior/Juvenile..Saugeen Golf Club
	O.G.S.A.	July 27th	President /Chairman/Director..St. Georges GC
	O.G.A.	July 27-28th	Family Classic..Cardinal GC
	N.S.G.A.	July 29th	Sod Rodeo..Smilsky Sod Farms, Cookstown
	R.C.G.A.	July 30th - 2nd	L.P.G.A. duMaurier Classic..Essex GC
	O.G.A.	July 31st	Glen Abbey Day..Glen Abbey GC
AUGUST	O.G.A.	August 4 - 6th	Junior Match Play..Kedron Dells GC
	O.T.R.F.	August 10th	Bayview GC
	W.O.G.S.A.	August 10th	98 Season Meeting..Rolling Meadow GC
	O.G.A.	August 10 - 12th	Seniors Championship..Oshawa GC
	G.L.A.G.S.	August 20th	Mt. Elgin Golf
	O.G.A.	August 24th	Junior Champion..Cutten Club
	G.B.S.A.	August 25th	Brookles Golf & CC..Marlon Gieseler
	O.T.R.F./G.T.L.	August 25th	Research Field Day & Turf Mgmt Clinics
SEPT.	O.G.A.	August 27th	Associate Members' - St. Andrews' Valley
	G.T.I. UofG	August 29th	Lawn & Garden Festival (Public Open House)
	G.L.A.G.S.	Sept. 10th	Scyence Hill Golf
	R.C.G.A.	Sept. 7 - 13th	Bell Canadian Open..Glen Abbey GC
	O.G.A.	Sept. 14th	George. Lyon Club Team..Weston G & CC,
			Markland Wood GC, Islington GC, Lambton G
	C.G.S.A.	Sept. 21st	Fall Field Day..The Willows, Saskatoon
	O.G.A.	Sept. 22nd	Senior Better Ball..Brampton GC
	W.O.G.S.A.	Sept 28th	98 Season Meeting..Whirlpool GC
	G.B.S.A.	Sept. 29th	Horseshoe Resort..John Hughes
OCT.	A.McClumphsa	Oct. 5th	To Be Announced
	G.B.S.A.	Oct. 13th	Lake Joseph Shotgun..Keith Walton
	G.L.A.G.S.	Oct. 22nd	Forest City National
NOV.	Uof G	Nov. 16 - Dec. 11th	Turf Manager Short Course

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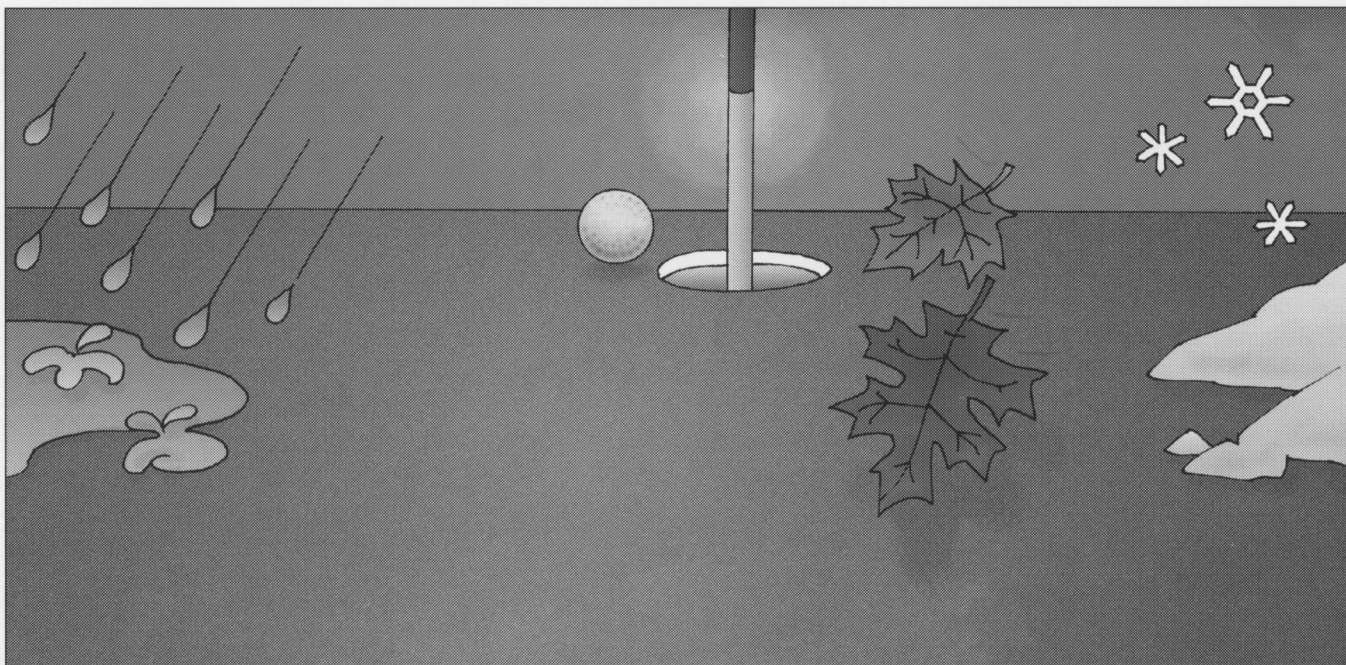
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turf or consequences



I just finished the annual maintenance shop spring cleaning. I know it's June already, but shop cleaning is traditionally a rainy day job and here in the diametric centre of the Caledon

desert where El Nino has made rain as scarce as hen's teeth; there really haven't been too many rain days. Have you noticed how poor El Nino is being blamed for everything from floods to draughts and chinch bug to unrest in the middle east. I'm not sure what El Nino means but I'm pretty sure it's loosely translated from Spanish as "When the heck is it going to rain?" or "Lets make the Gringos start irrigating in April."

I am by native a packrat which doesn't really aid in the cleanup process since I would rather keep 99 completely useless broken springs, worn-out belts, old bed knives and broken rake heads than need one 3" block of 4"x4" that I had burned in a spasm of common sense. So each spring, last years treasures, okay, lets face it junk, which over the winter have miraculously exposed themselves as the trash they always were, migrate either to the dumpster or the course junkpile. You all know the junkpile I mean. Somewhere on every golf course, usually in the woods, well away from the clubhouse and out of sight right next to the brush pile there is a sad tangle of no longer required golf course equipment which was once state-of-the-art and someone's pride and joy.

An unusual item which graces most properly appointed scrap piles is one or more 3 wheeled golf carts. What were they thinking when they designed this death trap? Any 5 year old tricycle rider can point to skinned knees or elbows and explain the basic design flaw of a 3 wheeled vehicle, but the same group of engineers who tried to shove the 3 wheeled ATC down our throats and were apparently too busy playing with their slide rules at 5 to know the basics of arse over tea kettle physics, brought us this nightmare and called it safe. Speaking as a person who has personally rolled a sand trap rake onto himself, I just can't imagine that the three wheeled cart was ever considered to be anything less than a liability hazard in the hands of the average weekend warrior golfer.

The junkpile will also have at least 3

Turf or Consequences

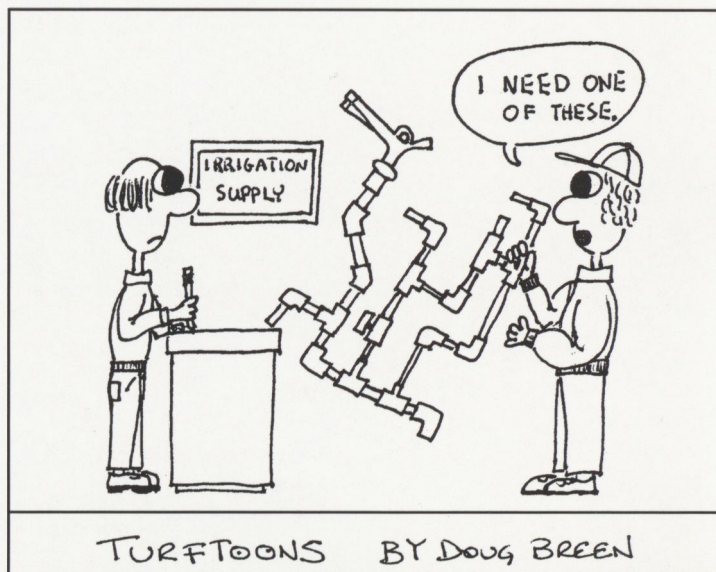
Cleaning the Shop

By Doug Breen, Superintendent

attachments for a piece of equipment which either you no longer have, or is elsewhere in the pile. And of course, no pile would be complete without dozens of sections of irrigation pipe of various lengths under two feet (usually broken) with a glue joint every 3 inches. You tell yourself that you're saving these PVC bagpipes to make a fountain for the pond, but you know that in the unlikely event that you actually ever build that fountain, you'll do it with entirely new parts. Typically, all of the equipment in the junkpile has been pirated for parts - if it didn't have three wheels when it got there, it does now.

Many people think that a good indicator of the size of the budget of a golf course is its clubhouse or shop. While this may be true, I believe that a more accurate measurement of the affluence of a golf course is its junkpile. You can tell the size of the budget by how far from the shop the junkpile is. On a big budge course, the pile is right off the property. These people actually dispose of equipment while it is still running instead of waiting for it to explode! A medium budget course will have the pile on the opposite side of the property and a low budget course will have the pile right behind or beside or even in front of the shop. Of course a really low budget course will store the junk equipment in the shop, because you'll still be using it.

In any event the shop is ordered and tidy for another year. I parted with my collection of empty oil cans and cracked garden hose, and made a few donations to our own scrap yard. Speaking of which, if any of you are planning to build a fountain or are in need of a part from a 1923 Kutzall, give me a call, I'll make you one heck of a deal.





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turf managers short course

by University of Guelph

The well respected University of Guelph Turf Managers Short Course held every February has just become a bit more accessible. To meet the heavy demand for the concentrated course, University of Guelph has added a second session in the fall of 1998 from November 16th to December 11th. Registration is now open for both the fall and the winter offerings.

The course, offered for thirty years now, has been quite a challenge to get into for the last two decades. On Nov, 10th, registration opened at 12 noon for the February 1998 offering and the fifty spots in the course were filled within four minutes. The line up was like waiting for concert tickets, said manager Peggy Nagle. "Students started lining up at the door at 2 a.m. By 11 a.m., there were 60 people in line waiting to register. At the stroke of noon, our phone lines and fax lines went crazy with calls from across Canada."

The intensive four-week program is in such high demand because of the quality of teaching and the marketability of its graduates, Nagle said.

For more information on the Turf Managers Short Course or to register, contact the University of Guelph, Office of Open Learning at 519-767-5000, FAX at 519-767-1114 or email to info@open.uoguelph.ca



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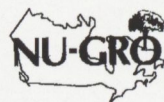
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O.G.S.A. pro/super golf day

by Dean Baker, Glen Abbey Golf Club
Director of Golf & Meetings



On May 12th the O.G.S.A. hosted the annual Pro/Super golf day at Glen Abbey Golf Club. What has started as a wet rainy day...ended up to be sunny, warm and most enjoyable.

The tournament has certainly gained popularity through the years with this year being no exception. A record 106 participants turn out to concur the Abbey. Glen Abbey was once again a terrific host for the third straight year. As a public golf course that hosts hundreds of corporate tournaments, they have certainly mastered the

fine art of customer service. Our congratulations go out to Dean Baker and Greg MacMillan for being great hosts for the day. Conditions due to heavy rains the night before had the course playing wet and long. Even still there were some excellent rounds played. David Miller from Beverly Golf Club was low pro, Keith Rasmus from Scarborough Golf Club finished low gross Superintendent with Colin Nisbet from Westview finishing low Net Superintendent. In the best teams scores, the crew from Scarborough took top prize, congratulations go out to Arthur Ewing and Keith Rasmus. In second place was Mike Moon and Jerry Richard from Craigowen Golf Club and the team from Mad River, Brian French and Ray Richards came in third.

The O.G.S.A. would like to thank the winners along with all the participants for making this tournament so successful. The tournament has always been a great opportunity to bring both professions together for a day of golf. Looking forward to seeing everyone next year.

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PURSELL INDUSTRIES TO BUY IMC GLOBAL LAWN AND GARDEN AND PROFESSIONAL PRODUCTS BUSINESSES

Sylacauga, Alabama and Northbrook, Illinois - Pursell Industries, Inc. and IMC Global Inc. (NYSE: IGL) announced today they have reached a definitive agreement for the sale of IMC Global's consumer lawn and arden and professional products business to Pursell Industries. The all-cash sale, which is subject to regulatory approval, is expected to be finalized in early April. Terms of the sale are not being disclosed. Included in the sale are four production facilities located in Winter Haven, FL; Los Angeles, CA; Orrville, OH; and Tilsonburg, Ontario. Pursell Industries also is acquiring the Vigoro trade name and all of the business unit's lawn and garden trademark brand products. In addition, phosphate and potash supply agreements for Pursell Industries are included in the transaction. IMC Vigoro had 1997 sales of \$100.6 million.

"This acquisition gives us a great advantage in serving the needs of our customers," said Taylor pursell, CEO of Pursell Industries Inc. "With the addition of Vigoro, we now have manufacturing and distribution capabilities across the United States and Canada. With this network in place we can fill virtually any customer's order with the products they need and the great service they've come to expect from both Pursell and Vigoro."

"We will continue to produce and market Vigoro products under the Vigoro name," Pursell said. "We see this as a major step in the continuing growth of our company, but we remain committed to the quality and service that have been the hallmarks of both Pursell and Vigoro for over 90 years," he added. "We will also continue to be the leader in innovation and technology in our industry, and with our greatly expanded production capacity, now our customers can make one call to fill their lawn and garden product needs. We also expect to invest heavily in all three markets Vigoro currently serves: consumer, professional, and the Canadian market."

"With the acquisition of IMC Vigoro and the licensing of the marketing and sales rights of the Best Brands in

the West, Pursell has completed it objective of a national sales and distribution structure to service regional and national retailer needs in all lawn and garden catagories," Pursell said. "I like to think of Pursell as aplace where things grow - people, plants and lawns," Pursell added. "And i look forward to the continued expansion of Pursell as a company."

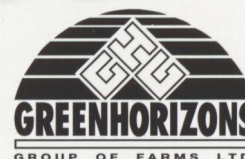
Pursell Industries, Inc., founded in 1904, is headquartered in Sylacauga, Alabama. It is a world leader in the technology of timed-released fertilizers and manufactures a wide variety of lawn and garden fertilizers and plant foods for the consumer. Sta-Green is the company's flagship national brand. Pursell's patented POLYON technology allows for the manufacturing of lawn and garden products with the ability to feed lawns/gardens/flowers for up to a year. Pursell Industries markets consumer brands under Sta-Green, Parker, Rapid-Gro, TruGreen ChemLawn, Best and Vigoro labels. pursell brands can be found in all major national and regional retail outlets.

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Pam Charbonneau, OMAFRA Turfgrass Specialist

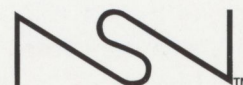
There are two new fungicide products that have been registered for use on turf in Canada over the last year. Apron FL, a systemic liquid seed treatment for control of seed rots and seedling blights caused by Pythium has now been registered for use on turfgrass seed in Canada. It contains the active ingredient metalaxyl and its PCP number is 24262. Apron FL is manufactured by Gustafson Inc. And will only be sold to commercial seed treaters. Research conducted by Leslie MacDonald at the British Columbia Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food showed improved germination of seed treated with metalaxyl over untreated seed, when both were grown in a root-zone

that had previously been in bentgrass.

The second new fungicide product which has also recently been registered is Turban for the control of Pythium crown and root rot on turf. It is a wettable powder product containing the active ingredient etridiazole and its PCP number is 11460. It is registered for use on golf course greens and commercial turfgrass production. The rate of application is 190g/100m² applied in 20L of water. It can be used for a maximum of two applications per year. It should be applied when symptoms first appear and again after 7 - 10 days. Turban is manufactured by Scotts-Sierra Crop Protection Company.



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tilebed installation

Late Fall Tilebed Installation

by Peter Kinch, Emerald Hills Golf Club

A larger Tilebed

More rounds of golf not only mean turf stress it also puts demands on the facilities. As Emerald Hills became busier, the clubhouse sewage treatment system became inadequate. To remedy this situation, a larger more efficient tilebed was proposed to deal with the higher greywater volumes. New balancing tanks had been installed in 1996, however, it was the effluent volume that had become a concern. Timing on the project was crucial as construction began on November 10th, the day after closing the golf course.

Location, Location, Location

Test digs established the best site to be in front of 15 green (a par 3 with elevated tees). Fortunately, the site was sandy subsoil that encompassed very few trees. In addition, disruption to the naturalized areas was minimal.

Preparation

Five Austrian Pines and Three Crabapples that were within the proposed tilebed were spaded to other locations on the course. A large greenside bunker was trenched through and filled to accommodate the weeping tiles. The existing sod was stripped and skidded to minimize the new sod that was purchased. The stripping was done by a local sod supplier and their skidding equipment. The cost of using the sod contractor would have been equal to the turf staff labour for lifting the sod, but the specialized equipment saved time. Fifty skids with sixty rolls per skid were stripped from the site. The same sod company supplied thirty-five skids of bluegrass sod on their last day of cutting. Tarping the skids of new sod along a protective tree line was an adequate method to prevent the skids from freezing right through.

Construction

A contractor excavated the trenches and installed the tiles in a conventional manner. The bed was almost an acre in total. A forcemain ran 150 metres from the balance tanks to the bed going through the range tee and 12 fairway. The forcemain is a pressurized line which has a slight incline towards the tilebed to prevent air pockets which disrupt flow. Much was learnt about the irrigation system in this

area as we did not have an as built to work from. Hydraulic tubing, satellite power wires and piping of all sizes had to be re routed around the weeping bed. Sprinklers were also removed from the affected area.

Grading

The late November construction posed some unique challenges, including having to grade the topsoil in sub-zero conditions. The latter was facilitated by box scraping the frozen furrows with the lightest equipment available to avoid crushing the tile. Final grading was completed using sand to fill the lows throughout the area.

Winter Sod

Our goal of obtaining use permits by the Spring required that the site have complete turf cover. We were fortunate to have moderate weather conditions, however, the stripped sod skids were blocks of ice. We began a program of bringing 16 skids of frozen sod into the warm mechanics bay to thaw overnight. The survival rate of these rolls was in question as 16 skids were laid per day until the tilebed was covered.

Spring Cleanup

All fine edging and final irrigation repairs were left until the spring. The challenge of the previous bunker was obvious as the Captain's Committee was not fully supportive of building the new bunker. To preserve the rating and aesthetics of the hole, a smaller bunker was constructed. The weeping bed limited the size and depth of the bunker. The drainage for the new bunker could not be equal with or deeper than the weeping tiles so that their function was not disturbed.

Finally, the restorations at 12 fairway and the range tee were completed allowing the course to be played with very little "ground under repair".

Approvals

Full use approvals for the tilebed were granted over the Winter and it is now fully functional. The survival of the sod was very good at approximately 95%.

Preparation, preplanning, on-site adjustments and a great crew overcame the unique challenges of building Emerald Hills' tilebed as Winter set in.

EMERALD HILLS GOLF CLUB LATE FALL TILEBED INSTALLATION

Photos by Blair Rennie



Before Construction Began - November '97



Construction Underway



Completed Project - December '97



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