

August 1999

Green is Beautiful

The Official Publication of Ontario Golf Superintendents' Association

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75th anniversary event

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Green is Beautiful

The Official Publication of Ontario Golf Superintendents' Association



COVER PICTURE

Twenty Valley Golf Club

Photo provided by
Dorothy Hills

75th anniversary event

by Dean Baker and Paul Scenna
O.G.S.A. Directors, Golf Events

On June 9th, the O.G.S.A. hosted their 75th Anniversary Golf Tournament at Twenty Valley Golf Club. Host superintendent and Past President of O.G.S.A., John Taylor put on an outstanding day and even provided weather that was close to perfection, (not too hot). The golf course was in perfect tournament condition playing hard and fast. With Twenty Valley having a completely manual irrigation system this is quite an achievement on John's part. Just over 100 participants enjoyed the day of golf with dinner, prizes and presentations all commemorating 75 years of our Association. Contributing to the success of the day were donations received from our associate members. Just over \$4,000.00 was donated to the prize table along with other special gifts including shrimp station and beverage cart on the 13th hole.

After dinner presentations were made and plaques in recognition of the O.G.S.A.'s 75th were handed out to President, Ian Bowen. Special guests included Jon Maddern from the G.C.S.A.A. along with Vince Gillis and Bill Fach from the C.G.S.A. Other speakers included Jim Wyllie, chairman of our editorial book

committee, who's hope is to celebrate the 75 years of the O.G.S.A. with a commemorative book. This book will be due out in the millenium and will look at the history of greenskeeping in Ontario through pictures and stories. Life member, Gord Witteveen was also asked to say a few words in which he gave much encour-

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Winners of the day



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Ian Bowen accepting plaque from CGSA representative, Bill Fach

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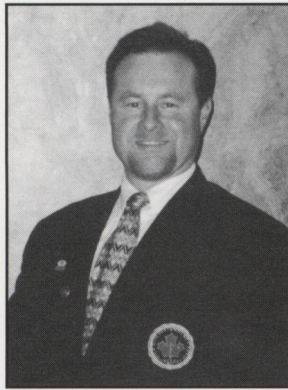


President's message

Celebration continues

The 75th Anniversary of the Ontario Golf Superintendents' Association continues to grow. Our year of celebration has not only been a success but also a year where we continue to grow as an Association.

Our events calendar this year has been a great success. The annual Border Cities event, held at the Essex Golf Club, in conjunction with the Michigan Border Cities Golf Course Superintendents' Association was an excellent day. The event attracted Superintendents from both sides of the border as well as industry associates and educators. Our annual Pro/Superintendent event, hosted by the Barrie National Pines Golf Club, was another excellent day. The event was well attended, and we thank all the Golf Professionals who attended this event. The O.G.S.A.'s 75th Anniversary Tournament, held at Twenty Valley Golf Club, was also a great success. Our association was recognized both nationally by the C.G.S.A. and internationally by the G.C.S.A.A. for our contributions to the industry. Our annual President, Greens Chairman, Superintendent and Director Day, held at the Toronto Golf Club, was a sell-out. The weather once again cooperated. The golf was excellent and the entire day a success. Recently, the O.G.S.A. took over the Alex McClumpha Tournament, to take place at Markland Wood Golf Club, on October 4th. The McClumpha Tournament has a long standing tradition with many Superintendents within our province and is a welcome addition to our annual events calendar.



Ian Bowen
Oshawa Golf Club



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Green is Beautiful 1999

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Northern hospitality

by Dorothy Hills

O.G.S.A. Office Administrator

While vacationing at our cottage on Lake Couchiching (Lake of the Winds) I touched bases with Jim Flett, Superintendent at Muskoka Lakes Golf and Country Club, and Membership Director for the O.G.S.A. My husband (Larry) and I had a couple of friends visiting from Montreal and we were eager to show them some of the Muskoka scenery. Jim was kind enough to arrange a day when we could visit him so he could show us around the golf course.

We awoke at 5:00 A.M. on the Thursday morning to the sound of rain pelting down on our cottage roof. We were going to leave by 6:00 A.M. in order to make it to the Muskoka Lakes Golf and Country Club, located near Port Carling by our pre-arranged time of 7:00 A.M. I tried to convince my two golfing, male companions that it was probably raining just as hard in Port Carling and was not a very good day to make the journey. I phoned the maintenance shop at the course at 6:00 A.M. (Who goes to work at 6:00 A.M. when it's raining anyway? I guess the grounds crew at Muskoka Lakes do.) and

was advised that although it was raining, it wasn't too heavy yet... My travelling buddies, exclaimed that a little rain isn't grounds for cancelling a golf appointment. I never thought I'd see the day when I got up at 5:00 A.M. to go golfing in the rain. But off we went, they with their waterproof golf shoes and rain outfits, and me with my summer slacks, not so waterproof running shoes and a flimsy wind jacket. Our friend's wife who is not a golfer but is an avid sleeper opted to stay in her cozy bed, with my faithful Lab guarding the cottage.

Upon arrival, Jim greeted us at the Turf Centre and handed me a pair of rain pants. They weren't from Jones of New York; however they kept my legs dry. Larry and Dave, my travelling companions took off to park the car, while Jim asked if I would drive one of the carts up to the Pro Shop. Sure, no problem, if I can drive a dump truck, tractor and racing boat, I can handle a little golf cart. In searching for the Reverse, I must have accidentally put it in forward and quickly greeted the wall of the maintenance building. After

finding the black knob and the big black "R" we were on our way.

Well, taking a scenic drive on a rainy day takes on a whole new meaning when surrounded by beautifully manicured greens, professionally landscaped gardens in full bloom with many varieties of day lilies, bee balm, cleome and several others that I did not recognize. Even in the rain, the rough, where I spent a lot of time, had a mixture of grass, one of which had a beautiful purple tinge to it. The steps ascending the ladies tees were flanked by colourful gardens and each tee had a handcrafted pine bench and sand box, both shellacked to a high gloss, a project which I'm told took two years to complete. Jim was the perfect tour guide and was knowledgeable about every aspect of the course. He was quick to point out different species of plants, trees and the blue heron that observed us from the edge of the river less than 20 feet away, then took to flight as we approached. Believe me, as a novice golfer, I explored areas where probably no man has tread before, making the most of the day and my surroundings.

The 18th hole was adjacent to the docking facilities on the beautiful Muskoka Lake. We're told that you can often see the majestic Segwinn Steam Ship from Gravenhurst go by. Jim rounds off the tour by showing us through the newly renovated dining room, which used to be a boat house. As we walk through the clubhouse (my sopping running shoes, squishing with every step) we marvelled at the woodwork and elegant decor. We said goodbye to Jim in front of the clubhouse garden amongst the colourful blooms. Thanks Jim, for a great tour and the warm hospitality of the Muskoka Lakes Golf and Country Club.



Jim Flett, Superintendent Muskoka Lakes Golf & Country Club

Calendar of events

McClumpha golf tournament

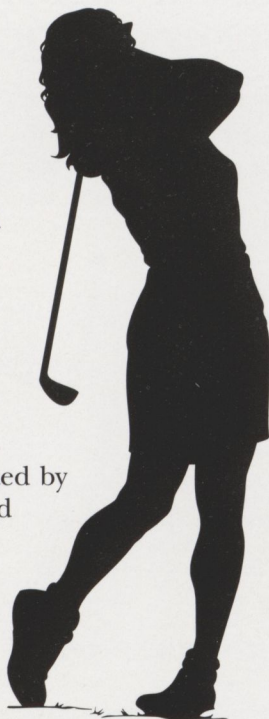
Just a little bit of history, as reported in the GCSAA Golf Course Reporter Dec. 1959. In 1945 at the Thornhill Golf Course some members asked Superintendent Alex McClumpha to play the last hole with them. Alex was lucky and scored a birdie 3 as members suggested that a tournament be organized for superintendents and assistants. It took a while but in October 1947 it was achieved at Thornhill Golf Course, according to OGSA minutes.

The first tournament was developed by the OGSA, with an independent committee later taking over the organization of this event. It was suggested that a bus be hired to pick up the supers and assistants at various locations in Toronto. Keith Nisbet promoted that idea, obviously worried about drunken supers driving home late at night. Bruce Woolley won the tournament once early on in its history with a 78. He received a suit of clothes, as first prize. Morley Findlay won the low net trophy and Bill Bowen the assistant's trophy.

The tournament was held at the following clubs in the early years: Thornhill Country Club, Elms Golf Course, Toronto Golf Course, Dundas Valley Golf Course, St. Catharines Golf Course, Highland Golf Course, Weston Golf Course, Lambton Golf Course, St. Georges Golf Course, Northwood Golf Course, and others. The first tournament was attended by 40 superintendents and assistants. Lately this popular event draws up to 200 people.

This year, we are proud to announce that the McClumpha Tournament will be held on Monday, October 4, 1999. This popular event will be hosted by the Markland Wood Country Club, in Etobicoke, with our host superintendent Rob Ackermann.

Watch for more details about this very popular event.



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10-52-10

17-10-13
15-15-30

28-14-14
15-30-15

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20-20-20



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A funny thing happened...

by Tim Schaly, Superintendent
Briar Fox Golf Club

I'll share a funny story with you that I ended up telling at my best friend's wedding.

It happened while I was greenskeeper at Cleveland's House Resort in the Muskoka's (1991). Chris, my assistant approached me with a puzzled face and said "you can't believe what just happened to me". Judging by his expression I figured it was serious. He said, "I just came from the general manager's office. He called me into his office because one of his guests accused me of stealing his golf ball right off the green. I swear I didn't do it Tim. The guest hit shot onto the par 3 uphill green. I was working around the green doing some-

thing else, and then went on about my business at another hole. Suddenly, I could see this angry guy coming at me demanding his golf ball back. When I told him I didn't take it, he called me a wise guy and wrote down my name. That's why I got called into the general manager's office. I still don't know what happened to the guy's ball. Tim, I've got a whole bag of balls, I would never steal his golf ball." Knowing my assistant's character, I believed him at once, but that didn't solve the mystery of the missing golf ball.

I didn't think too much about it for a few weeks until I was working on the same green one day. I was standing on the edge of



the green waving the golfers to hit up. A golf ball landed softly on the green when I saw a black flash scurry across the green. I followed the little thief to the edge of the rough where I was amazed to find a dozen half chewed golf balls inside the trunk of an old oak tree. A ha!, I had solved the mystery of the missing golf balls. Too bad, golf balls don't make very good nuts!

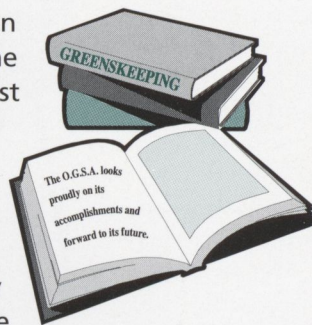
BULLETIN UP-DATE

GREENSKEEPING IN ONTARIO AND THE HISTORY OF THE ONTARIO GOLF SUPERINTENDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Progress is being made on the O.G.S.A. publication. Gord Witteveen is diligently working away and has his head buried deep amongst the archives at the Royal Canadian Golf Course Association. The first draft for chapter one has been completed and chapters two and three are well on their way.

Interviews are continuing and survey forms are still coming in. If you know of someone you feel should be interviewed or contacted for information please let us know. If you have any photos, pertinent information or even a funny story or anecdote don't hesitate to send it in to the office.

The editorial committee will be meeting again at the end of August, so watch for an update in the October issue of *Green Is Beautiful*. Until then... keep those cards, letters and photos coming in.



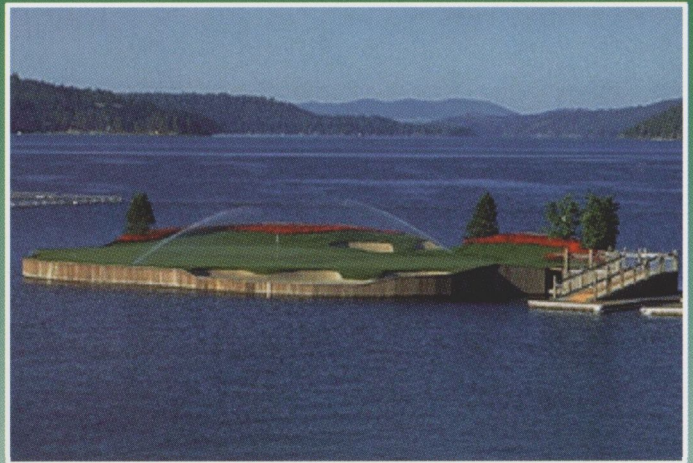
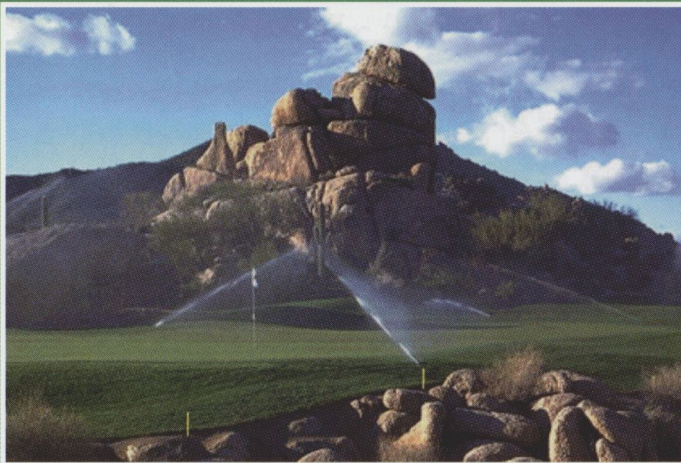
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Don't neglect your golf course superintendent

by Bradley S. Klein

Ask any golf course superintendent and they'll tell you, the hardest part of their job is dealing with in-house politics. Growing grass, dealing with drainage, making sure there's enough air and sunlight to keep their course in shape: these are the things they've trained years for. The best university program in turf management can't prepare them for all the nonsense entailed in responding to 400 bosses – all of them self-styled experts, and most of them accustomed to having their way.

Besides reading about *Poa annua* grass and the percolation rates of various soils, it might be helpful to spend a semester in turf school studying Machiavelli and Carl von Clausewitz. Not that dealing with the vagaries of weather is easy. But at least in responding to Mother Nature you don't have to negotiate along the way with someone else – or worse, yet, a committee.

The image of the superintendent as country bumpkin greenkeeper – dressed in jeans and suspenders, with little more than a few years as a farmhand for training – are long gone. You might not know it from the way some members treat their hired help, but superintendents today are the most highly trained professionals in the golf business. Most of them are licensed by their States to deal with pesticides, and many of them continue their college education through ongoing seminars organized by the 18,000 member Golf Course Superintendents Association of America or its regional affiliates. With all the recent developments in golf equipment, swing technique and physical training, the single most dramatic changes in how golf looks and plays have come by way of refinements in golf course maintenance.

Whenever I have questions about a golf course, I go to the superintendent. The only trouble is finding them, because the good ones spend a lot more time in the field than in their office taking calls. Good superintendents know their courses as well as – sometimes better than – they know their own kids. And why not, since they spend more time tending them?

That's why it's always awkward, if not downright rude, when some thunderous tycoon of a member raises hell about, well you name it. "There's not enough water in the ponds." "Why can't you get your mowers off the course earlier." "The greens are too bumpy." "The rakes should be inside the bunkers, not outside." The fescue rough looks like hay." "What are the fairways stimping at?"

Many of these concerns come from excessive expectations. In the business, it's called "The Augusta National syndrome." An awful lot of people expect their golf courses to look like the annual site of the Masters. Of course, they wouldn't be willing to fund the necessary maintenance budget. And little do they realize that tournament venues are primed to look a certain way for one week a year and don't look that way every day.

The expectations are compounded by those Florida-bound snowbirds, the ones who winter down south between Thanksgiving and April 1 and demand that their little havens look lush and plush no matter what.

Superintendents under such scrutiny have virtually no job security. I know many superintendents who have been on the job a decade and still fear the wrath of a disgruntled member or clique. If the course gets highly ranked, they are told "it's about time." Should the golf course fall

off in comparison to some neighbouring layout, the superintendent's head is first on the chopping block.

The problem is compounded by the proliferation of management companies, most of them eager to cut costs. Too many of them suffer the mistaken belief that they can slash without sacrificing. Many of these firms interested only in short-term profits, try to force out a veteran superintendent and replace him or her with a low-paid newcomer just to save \$20,000 – 30,000 a year – while putting a multi-million dollar asset at risk.

To be fair, there are clubs that value who and what they have. It's crucial to extend long-term contracts so that a superintendent doesn't feel constantly under the gun. The main reason that golf courses are over-watered, for instance, is the greenkeepers are afraid to make a mistake and "lose" an area of the course to brown-out or disease. They end up saturating the place just to cater to certain expectations about "green is better", even if this invites other kinds of turf trouble.

Beside long-term contracts, clubs can encourage – and pay for – their superintendents to attend annual training workshops and national meetings. It would also help if superintendents were made to feel welcome teeing it up occasionally with members, or representing the club in area events. Clubs can also establish regular procedures so that complaints can be directed through a committee rather than having the superintendent respond to every complaint.

A long-term master plan to guide maintenance and any renovation projects is the only way to avoid the nastier forms of

continued on page 11

in-house politicking. Perhaps most important of all is establishing an adequate budget so that the superintendent doesn't have to cut corners.

For their own part, superintendents need to maintain regular communications. Proper signage at the first and tenth tees about pesticide application or cart traffic can forestall misunderstandings out on the course. A column in the club's monthly newsletter or a note directly to the members, also helps. So does simply showing up at club meetings and the occasional social function.

What a pleasure it is to see a club that values its superintendent – and to see golfers acknowledging it, as well. The media in general and televised golf in particular, do a lousy job of crediting the hard work most superintendents do. Among the many gracious touches in Justin Leonard's British Open championship speech in 1997 were his words praising Royal

Troon's superintendent, William McLachlan.

When is the last time a winner of a major publicly thanked the

greenkeeper? Come to think of it, when's the last time your members thanked you?

Reprinted from Golfweek, Aug. 2/97



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NOTICE

Dr. Tom Hsiang and Paul Goodwin, Plant Pathologists at University of Guelph submitted an article together with a survey insert on Anthracnose basal rot of creeping bentgrass published in the June issue of *Green is Beautiful*. They anticipate the results of that survey and their research should be available for publication in the December or February issue of G.I.S.B.

In the meantime, Dr. Hsiang has kindly offered to respond, in *Green Is Beautiful* to any problems you may encounter with this interesting disease. If you have any questions for Dr. Hsiang and his research staff, please forward them to: *Green Is Beautiful*, c/o Ontario Golf Superintendents' Association, 328 Victoria Road South, Guelph, Ontario N1H 6H8



New green looking west

New look for research plots

Golf course greens and research greens are usually as similar as the personalities of Moe and Greg Norman. Golf course greens are designed to provide strategic challenge and visual appeal to golfers. They are trod upon by hundreds of golfers over the course of a day. Research greens are usually rectangular, relatively flat and receive little or no traffic. The new research green at the Guelph Turfgrass Institute was built to challenge some of the preconceived ideas of what a research green should be.

The new research green is contoured and surrounded by bunkers and mounds accentuated by plantings of unmown fescue. The green itself is 16,000 ft² in

area. It is a modified rootzone system with 30 cm of USGA-specification sand with no gravel or choker layer. The addition of this green provides the GTI with the complete range of putting green construction types common to Ontario – native soil, USGA specifications using both low and high pH sand and now a modified method of construction.

Construction of the green began in the fall of 1997. Most of the work was done last summer with the rootzone in place and ready for seeding by mid-summer. The green was seeded with Cobra bentgrass in July and was quite well established by the fall. The mounds were seeded with 50-50 mix of chewings fescue and

creeping red fescue. The small approach area in front of the green was seeded to Providence bentgrass and is maintained under fairway conditions. The remainder of the area was sodded with Kentucky bluegrass sod. Triplex mowing began this summer and the final touch was added with the addition of sand to the bunkers surrounding the green.

The green has a few special features not normally found on golf course greens. Foremost is the installation of TDR probes through the rootzone profile. The probes are used to measure moisture conditions in the rootzone and will be used as part of the ongoing water

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New green looking southeast

O.G.S.A. President, Green Chairman, Superintendent and Director event

by Dean Baker and Paul Scenna
O.G.S.A. Directors, Golf and Meetings

In the O.G.S.A.'s 75th year, we were honoured to have the Annual Presidents, Green Chairman, Superintendent and Director Tournament at The Toronto Golf Club, on Monday, July 19th, 1999. Superintendent, Al Schwemler and the staff at Toronto certainly rolled out the red carpet for this well attended event. Thirty-two teams were on hand for the 8 A.M. shotgun. Noting the popularity of this event, the waiting list of teams to participate was lengthy. The day was overcast with the possibility of rain. The superintendents were certainly not bothered by the forecast, as for most of us... we are still contending with drought conditions this summer. Rain did fall, but not until all the teams were enjoying cocktails and a gourmet lunch in the comfortable dining room of the clubhouse.

Our congratulations to the following winners of the day.

CHAMPION TEAM

Glendale Golf & Country Club (123)

Mike Côté
Bill Ellis
John Swift
Brian

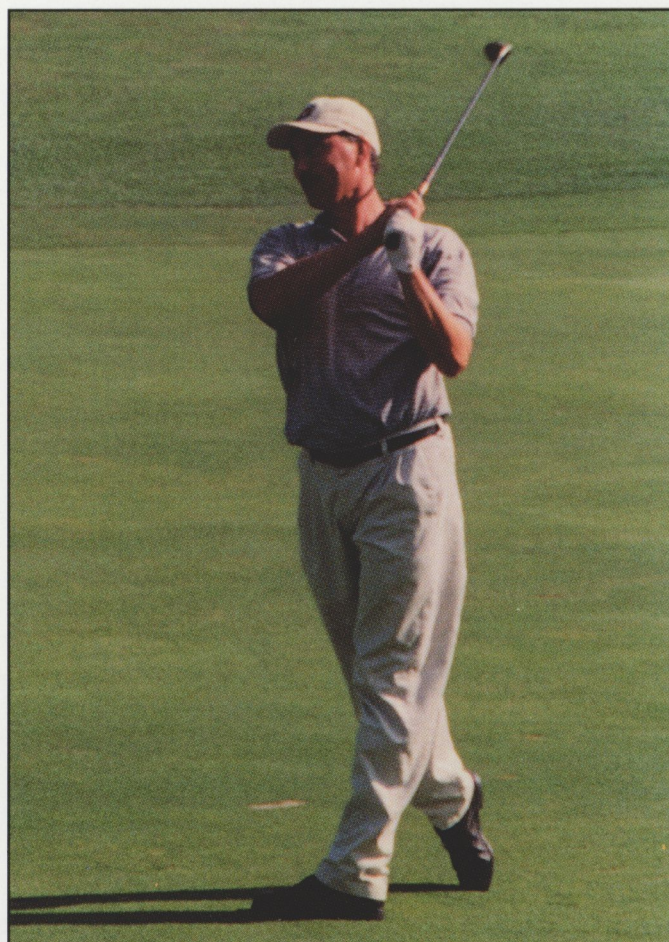
Rutherford

RUNNERS - UP TEAM

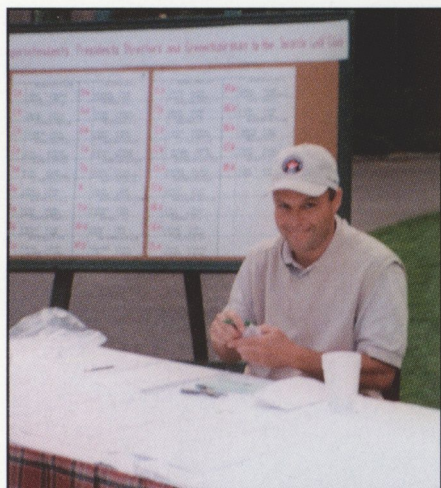
The Granite Club (127:)

John Gravett
Roger Wilson
John Trist
Johnathon Hess

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Host Superintendent, Al Schwemler on the 13th hole



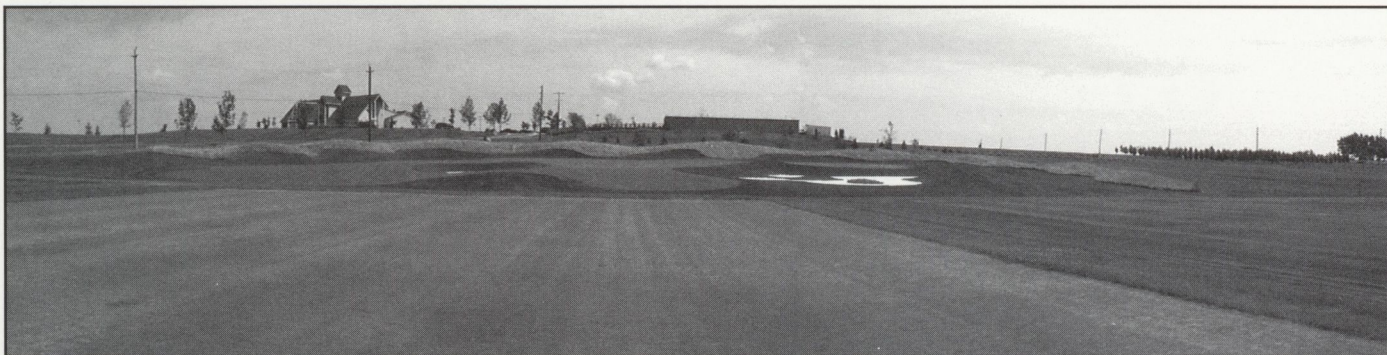
John Taylor, in charge of the parimutuel betting.



Paul Scenna, straight down the middle.



Ian Bowen, good drive off the second tee



New green looking east

continued from page 12

use budgeting research being conducted at the GTI.

The rationale for the construction of this green is twofold. It provides a research environment that closely mimics the real-life appearance and contours of a golf course putting green. Opportunity exists for researchers to work on putting green slopes and mounds. It is expected that future research projects will also superimpose standardized wear on a variety of trials and research experiments. Although the ideal situation would be to conduct research on an actual golf course green, most golfers are not particularly supportive of having a green with a patchwork of treatments between their ball and the cup.

The second reason for building the green is the anticipated increase in demand for sand rootzone bentgrass putting surfaces at the GTI. Of the two existing sand rootzone greens, one is dedicated completely to pathology research and the other has almost 50% of the area taken up by a five-year bentgrass variety trial.

Construction of the green was initiated by \$10,000 provided by the Ontario Turfgrass Research Foundation utilizing the Building Fund which is earmarked specifically for development of the GTI site and research infrastructure. This amount was matched by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. The green was completed through the generous donations of time and money

provided from a variety of industry professionals and suppliers. They are recognized in the list below.

The new research green will be officially opened at the GTI Research Field Day on August 31st.

Construction of new research green was supported by the donation of time and materials from the following individuals and organizations:

Direct Funding: Ontario Turfgrass Research Foundation, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food & Rural Affairs

Design: René Muylaert, Golf Course Architect

Construction Supervision: Paul Baker (René Muylaert, Golf Course Architect)

Project Consultant: Paul Dermott, CGCS, Property Manager, Oakdale Golf Club

Shaping: Gordon Wendover Construction

Rootzone Sand: T.C.G. Materials

Bunker Sand: George F. Pettinos Limited

Soil: Fisher Landscape & Golf Supplies

Seed: OSECO

Sod: Greenhorizons Group of Farms, Zander Sod

Irrigation System: Turf Care Products

Installation: Atkinson Irrigation, J.V.R.

Drainage: Atkinson Irrigation, J.V.R., Turf Drain Inc.

Bunker Construction: Richard Creed, Superintendent, The Cutten Club

Maintenance Equipment: G.C. Duke Equipment, Podolinsky Turf Equipment, Turf Care Products

Additional Support & Assistance:

Almack & Associates, Glen Abbey Golf Club, University of Guelph Research Station Operations, George Klassen, GTI Summer Staff.

O.G.S.A. takes this opportunity to congratulate Rob Witherspoon on his appointment to the position of Director of the Guelph Turfgrass Institute as of July 1, 1999. Rob has been serving as acting Director of the G.T.I. for several years.

Summer Research Field Day

The annual GTI Research Field Day is scheduled for Tuesday, August 31st. The day will begin at 8:30 a.m. and feature the official opening of the new research green, plot tours and a BBQ lunch. An optional afternoon workshop between 1 and 2 p.m. provides a great opportunity for exploration of timely turf topics in small group situations with GTI, OMAFRA, guests, faculty and staff. Register right away for this great summer refresher.

Space is limited! For further information call the GTI at (519) 767-5009.



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Gear Sunwashed Golf Shirt	100% waffle cotton with 3 button placket, flat knit collar and cuffs. Available in seagrass only. Sizes L and XL.	\$75.60
Gear French Houndstooth	100% preshrunk cotton double knit jersey with contrasting rib knit 3 button placket, collar and cuffs. One colour only (combination of khaki and beige). Sizes L and XL.	\$81.00
Second Skin Fleece Shirt**	100% polyester with contrasting ribbed crew neck, cuffs and waist. Available in navy, forest, and black. Sizes L and XL	\$64.80
Second Skin Sweatshirt**	100% preshrunk cotton with flatlock stitching. Ribbed cuff & waist. 6" zip neck & collar. Available in forest only. Sizes L and XL.	\$48.60
Second Skin Sweatshirt**	100% preshrunk cotton, with flatlock stitching. Ribbed cuff & waist, crew neck. Available in maroon, grey, forest. Sizes M, L, XL.	\$48.60
Syma Wind Shirt	100% crinkle nylon, 2 button placket, knit collar, cuffs and waist. Interesting golf diagonal design on front, back, one sleeve and placket. 100% nylon lining. Available in navy or black. Sizes L and XL.	\$64.80
Sunice Shells	100% nylon with ribbed crew neck, cuffs and waist. Available in black, red and teal. Sizes M, L, XL, XXL and XXXL.	\$37.80
Second Skin Hats	100% cotton, contrasting crown with adjustable strap. Available in black/gold, tan/khaki, navy/tan and wheat/green. One size fits most.	\$16.20

*** These three items sport a very attractive embroidered crest and association name across the front. All other merchandise has an embroidered logo on the left side of garment and hats have a logo on the front.*

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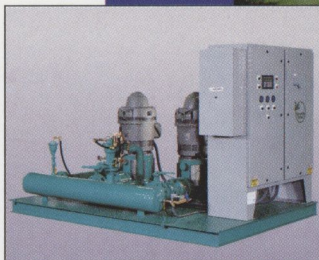


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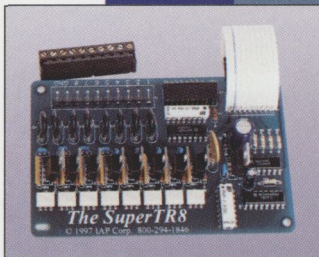
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York Downs Golf Club (128)

Bill Fach
Peter Bake
Geoffrey Turner
Alan Holt

CLOSEST TO THE PIN

Mike Lipischak from Twenty Valley Golf Club

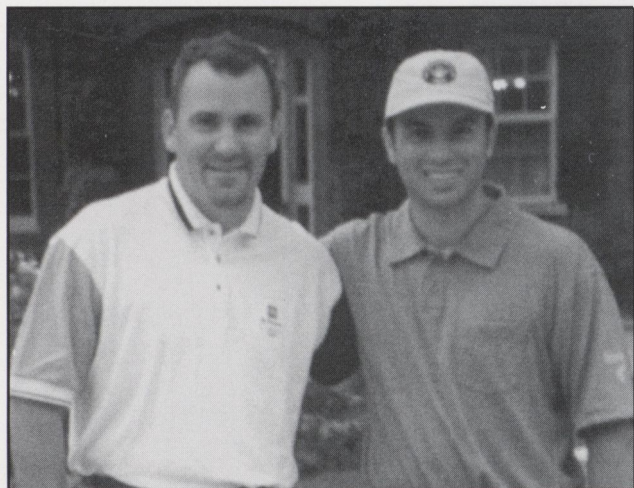
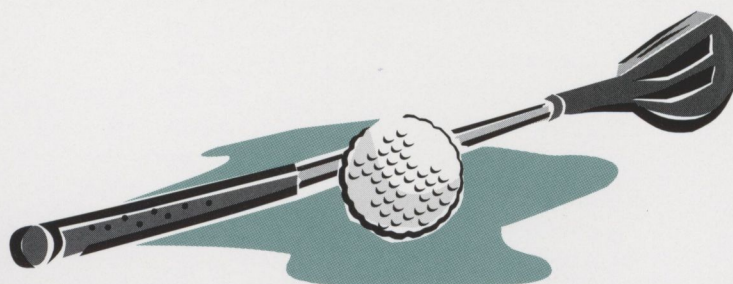
LONGEST DRIVE

Paul Brown from Islington Golf Club



The Oshawa Golf Club Team

Once again, we would like to thank Al Schwemler and the Staff at The Toronto Golf Club for a fabulous day, and for being great hosts.



Dean Baker and Paul Scenna, O.G.S.A. Event Directors



Glendale Golf & Country Club took home the trophy

IT'S IN THE TAG



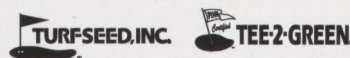
Help your Affiliated Chapter receive up to \$.50 per tag from qualified Turf-Seed, Inc. Tag Team™ or Tee-2-Green Corp. Penn Pals™ varieties or seed mixtures.*

Turf-Seed, Inc. and Tee-2-Green Corp. have pledged to contribute to your Affiliated Chapter and The GCSAA Foundation's "Investing in the Beauty of Golf Campaign." Just collect the blue tags* and send them to The GCSAA Foundation along with your name and your designated Affiliated Chapter. The staff at The GCSAA Foundation will do the rest. It's that simple. Your Affiliated Chapter and The Foundation will split \$.50 for every Turf-Seed variety or mixture blue tag and/or \$1.00 for every Tee-2-Green Penn Pals variety or mixture tag. This rebate offer could provide your Affiliated Chapter with the funds to sponsor scholarship programs for turfgrass students or local and regional research.

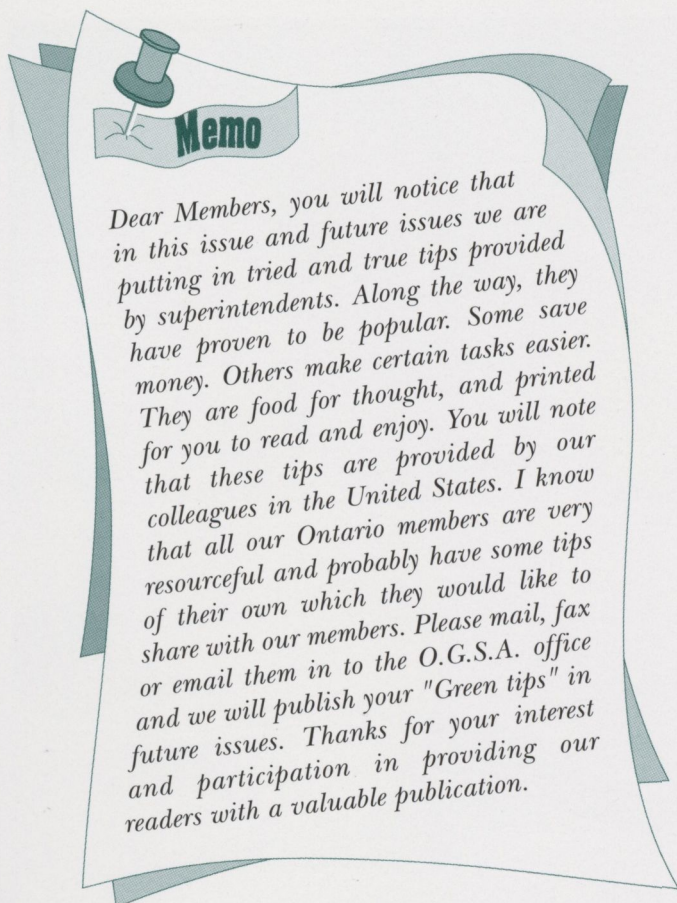


Call The GCSAA Foundation for more information at (800) 472-7878 ext. 465.

*Variety names must match qualified seed list. Mixture tags must carry a M16 or M16M prefix. Turf Seed product Blue Tags are redeemable for \$.50 each, while Penn Pals™ product tags are redeemable for \$1.00. Rebates will be split evenly between the Affiliated Chapter and The GCSAA Foundation. Direct rebate offer to GCSAA Foundation, 1421 Research Park Drive, Lawrence, KS 66049.



We would like to acknowledge Turf-Seed, Inc. and Tee-2-Green Corp. for their contributions through this philanthropic program.



Tip of the month

Grass-Free Rollers

We've got a simple way to prevent grass from collecting on the rear rollers of old triplexes. We stretched a large spring from an old screen door across the roller and attached it to the brackets on either side - that did the trick.

Dan Skarwecki
Mount Pleasant Golf Course, Baltimore, Maryland

Build a No-Strain Strainer

Use a disposable tee towel as a strainer cloth by securing it over a container's mouth with an elastic band. They're not only handier, they're stronger and faster than typical paper strainers.

Robert C. Dearborn
Park Golf Course, Conneaut Lake, Pennsylvania

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Health & safety

Examples of equipment that should be provided by golf facilities include:

Face and eye protection

- Side shields
- Goggles
- Face shields / masks
- Safety glasses
- Welding goggles

Hand / arm protection

- Gloves
- Rubber sleeves
- Hand shields

Hearing protection

- Ear plugs
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Capital expenditures forecasted to rise

Twenty-one percent of private clubs spent more than \$500,000 on capital improvements in their most recent fiscal year.

Outlook:

Golf course capital improvement projects are expected to increase as 23 percent of golf and country clubs indicate that they will invest more than \$500,000 in their next fiscal year.

Strategy:

Golf facilities use more than one funding source for improvements, especially for more costly projects, and they may take out loans for projects costing less than \$100,000.

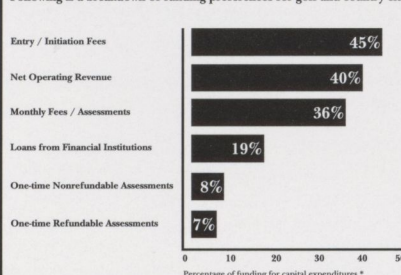
Reason:

Members do not want their golf facility management stockpiling

money for projects they may not be around to enjoy. Additionally, some facilities have annual fund raisers such as golf tournaments to raise capital, and some rely on developer or corporate subsidies.

Note: The average annual capital expense purchase budget for golf course equipment at a private club is \$101,376.

Following is a breakdown of funding preferences for golf and country clubs:



Sources: The Private Club Advisor, January 1999; The Golf Course Superintendents Report, 1998.

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agement to the future of the Association and upcoming Superintendents. Gord is also part of the 75th editorial committee and is writing a large portion of the book. As a memorable note, the associate side of our membership, (suppliers, distributors, & sales persons) were given honourable mention for their years of contribution, great service, and dedication to the O.G.S.A. and fellow Superintendents.

On behalf of the O.G.S.A. we would like to thank all the participants for such a great day, and once again to John Taylor for a fine golf course. A special thanks to our sponsors. Without you, this day would not have been the tremendous success it was!

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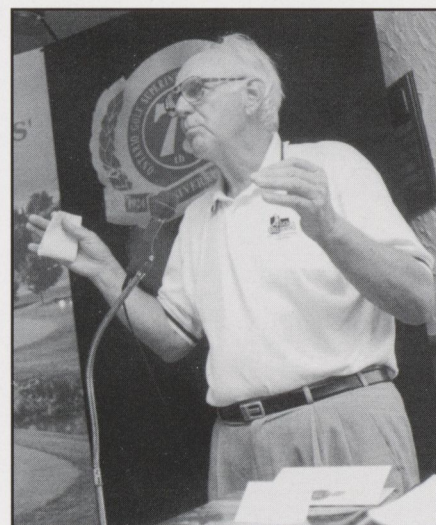
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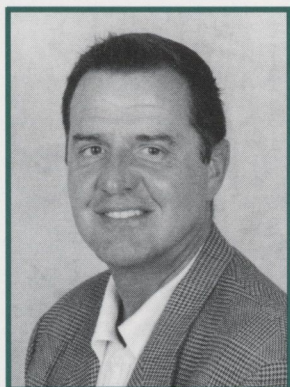
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Gord Witteveen, Life Member

Press Release



AgriBioTech, Inc. (ABT) wishes to announce the appointment of Ron Kowalski as General Manager of the combined forage and turf seed business of Rothwell Seeds International and Oseco Inc., which has integrated as a single entity "ABT Canada".

Currently, Rothwell Seeds Int. and Oseco Inc. service the retail sector; sod growers, landscapers, city and municipality tenders, hydroseeders, golf courses, feed and seed distributors, farm centers and farm dealers. The two companies distribute exclusively, many of the top performing turf and forage varieties available in the market such as: L-93 Bentgrass, 1757 Kentucky Bluegrass, Preakness Kentucky Bluegrass, Raven Kentucky Bluegrass, Imagine Perennial Ryegrass, Palmer III Perennial Ryegrass, Starmaster Alfalfa, Proleaf Alfalfa, Carola Timothy and Warrior Orchardgrass.

Ron has worked in the forage and turf seed industry for over 22 years and has a vast knowledge and understanding of the industry. Ron has served on a number of boards such as CSTA, ASTA, and Field Seed Institute.

"I am excited about what lies ahead and the challenges this new responsibility is going to bring. ABT Canada is and will continue to be a major influence in the seed industry," says Ron.

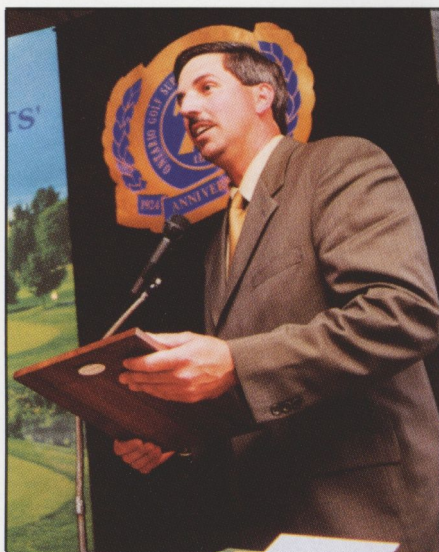
AgriBioTech Inc. is a fully integrated, full service seed company specializing in the forage and turfgrass seed sector, complete with research and development of proprietary seed varieties, seed processing plants and a national and international distribution and sales network. AgriBioTech's vision is to lead the turf and forage industry in discovering its value potential.

For Additional Information Call: 1-888-768-4935 or 1-800-668-5080

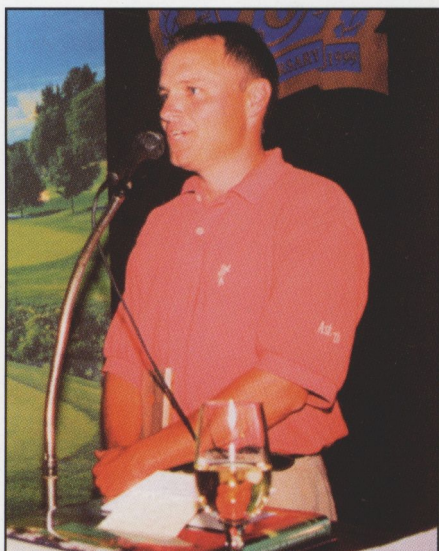




Twenty Valley G.C. 7th hole.



Jon Maddern, GCSAA representative.



Host Superintendent, John Taylor.

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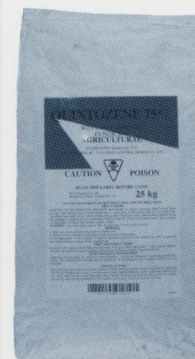
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We'll look forward to receiving your application by October 1, 1999.

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Looking back

Twenty-five years ago today

by Barry Endicott,
Nobleton Lakes Golf Club

In 1974, the O.G.S.A. was celebrating its 50th anniversary. The board of directors were Bob Heron (president), Paul Dermott (vice-president), Al Beeney (secretary), Whitey Jones, Bob Hall, John Stoughton, Cameron Cairncross, Carl Bennet, Helmut Kopp, Paul Scenna, Jim Wyllie (past president), and Ross Haines (newsletter editor).

New members joining the O.G.S.A. that year were Ken Wright, Northwood Golf and Country Club, Wendell Dymont, Big Cedar Golf and Country Club, Dave Dick, Sleepy Hollow C.C. and Gerry Laferriere, Garion Golf Club, Sudbury. Annual dues were increased from \$20.00 to \$30.00.

The fourth Annual Turfgrass Symposium of the O.G.S.A. was held on January 3rd at the Lambton Golf and Country Club with Jim Wyllie as host. Seventy-five people attended and Keith Nesbit was the Session Chairman for the day.

Superintendents met at the Centennial Arena in Etobicoke between 1:00 and 2:00 for

hockey. Blake McMaster (Gormley Green), Bruce Lewis (Georgetown), Whitey Jones (Aurora), Helmut Kopp (Uplands), Carl Bennet (Oakville), Paul Dermott (Islington), Bob Heron (Markland Woods) and Ron Graham, who broke his ankle on his first shift, all participated.

Minimum wage was \$1.65/hr for a student under 18 and working under 28 hours, \$1.90/hr for a learner during his first month and \$2.00/hr. for general employees.

Sam DiPinto, of the Lido Golf Centre, accepted the Superintendent position at the Beverley G.C. David Taylor Barnes passed away in March and Norm MacDonald, a past Superintendent at York Downs, also passed away. Stew Mills helped make ice at the Canadian Curling Championships in London, Helmut Kopp won a gold medal at the Hotdog Championships at Blue Mountain and Steve Miller moved to Dundas Valley G.C. as Superintendent. Jack Harris retired from the Hamilton G.C. to build his own golf course and

Stew Mills moved from London Highlands to Hamilton G.C.

On August 9th, the Pro-Superintendent Golf Tournament was held at Brampton G.C. with Ross Haines as host and the O.G.S.A. 50th Anniversary Golf Tournament was held at Lambton G.C. with Jim Wyllie as host. The Christmas dance was held at Richmond Hill Golf and Country Club on Dec. 14.

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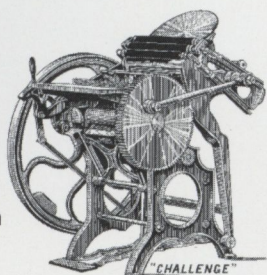
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