

February 1999

# Green is Beautiful

The Official Publication of Ontario Golf Superintendents' Association



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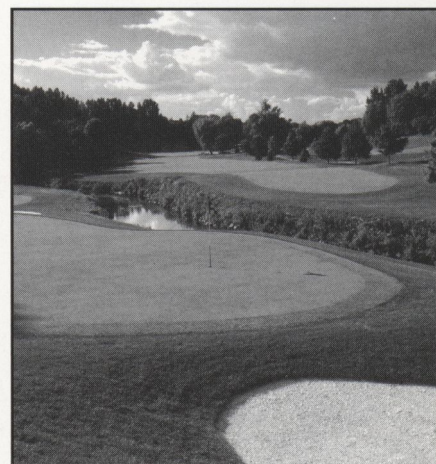
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## Contents

<b>ONTARIO TURFGRASS SYMPOSIUM 1999 .....</b>	<b>12</b>
Diesel fuel, the big mystery .....	23
Looking back .....	22
New Distributor for Jacobsen Turf Equipment .....	18
New winter programs at the GTI .....	6
President's Message .....	4
Upcoming events .....	6
The intricacies of job hunting – and interviews .....	7
The "Super Crew" .....	8
Turf or consequences .....	10

# Green is Beautiful

The Official Publication of Ontario Golf Superintendents' Association



## COVER PICTURE

**The 6th Tee at Donalda Club**

Photo provided by  
Donalda Superintendent, Paul Scenna

## Advertisers

Albion Golf Cars .....	22
Almack .....	17
Braemar Building Systems .....	21
Century Rain Aid .....	5
G.C. Duke Equipment Ltd. ....	2
Hydro Agri Canada L.P. (Nutrite) .....	19
Maple Turf Supply .....	7
Nu-Gro Professional .....	4
Nu-Gro Professional .....	16
Ontario Seed Co. ....	17
Pelee Industrial Services .....	23
Plant Products Co. Ltd. ....	8
The Scotts Company .....	22
Skyway Lawn Equipment Ltd. ....	17
Turf Care Products Canada .....	24
Turf Care Products Canada – Irrigation Division .....	6
Vanden Bussche Irrigation .....	9
Zander Sod Co. Ltd. ....	7



## President's message

### Celebrating our 75th Anniversary

In 1999, the Ontario Golf Superintendents' Association, will be celebrating its 75th Anniversary.

Founded in 1924, the Ontario Golf Superintendents' Association ensured that due respect is accorded to our profession. Our forefathers envisioned an Association rich in Ethical Standards and Tradition, that would truly represent our profession. The Association's membership today encompasses our entire industry: superintendents, assistant superintendents, course owners, suppliers; and educational faculty. Our Association's role in the development of: The Guelph Turfgrass Institute; Ontario Turfgrass Symposium; and the CGSA's National Occupational Standards only enrich our long tradition of being an active industry Association.

The Ontario Golf Superintendents' Association is planning to recognize our 75th Anniversary, by recognizing those who have all made our Association what it is today. A special publication dedicated to sharing the history of the Association is already in the works. The Annual President's Reception held during the Ontario Turfgrass Symposium kicked off our celebration, where Past President's, 25 Year Members and this year's Scholarship Award recipients were all honoured.

Make the Ontario Golf Superintendents' Association events, part of our calendar in 1999.

Help celebrate your 75th Anniversary.



Ian Bowen  
Oshawa Golf Club



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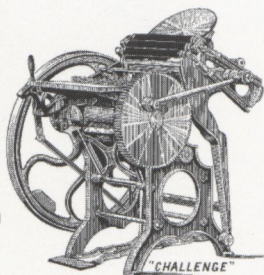
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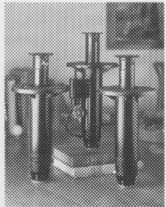


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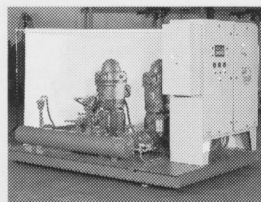
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## New winter programs at the GTI

### Job Fair and HR Management Day

The Guelph Turfgrass Institute is offering a new one day human resource management program on February 22nd. Glen Abbey Golf Course Superintendent Dean Baker will lead the morning workshop called *Team Building on the Golf Course*. Whether preparing for the Bell Canadian Open or operating a nine-hole course with a skeleton staff, building a strong work team allows you to get the most from your staff while providing a positive and enjoyable work environment. Learn the techniques Dean has developed to build an effective maintenance team on the golf course. After lunch, Westmount Golf Club Human Resource Manager Wanda Gordon will address the issue of

*Managing the Seasonal Worker*. Summer staff are critical to your success on the golf course. This workshop will provide you with the tools to effectively recruit, select, supervise and retain top quality summer staff. For registration information call the Office of Open Learning at (519) 767-5000 or e-mail [info@open.uoguelph.ca](mailto:info@open.uoguelph.ca).

Following the afternoon session a job fair will be held. Turf management students from Guelph and other programs in Ontario will be invited to attend and meet potential employers. Golf course employers are invited to attend or send their job postings for seasonal and permanent positions. Don't miss this opportunity to find qualified staff for your key staffing needs.

## Upcoming events

1999

### GOLF TOURNAMENTS

**Border Cities Tournament**  
Monday, April 26th, 1999  
Essex Golf & Country Club  
LaSalle, ON

**Pro / Superintendent  
Golf Tournament**  
Monday, May 31st, 1999  
Islington Golf Club Limited  
Islington, ON

**President / Green Chairman  
Tournament**  
Monday, July 19th, 1999  
Toronto Golf Club  
Toronto, ON

**O.T.R.F. Fundraiser  
Golf Tournament**  
Tuesday, August 17th, 1999  
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# The intricacies of job hunting - and interviews

by Geoffrey Perkins, Summit Golf & Country Club  
Greens Chairman 15 years, President 2 years

Do you know that the resume is rejected about 90% of the time? True! Try to bypass the resume and reach the interview stage – fast. How? Verbal Communication. Telephone prospective employers, even if a job has not been advertised!

Companies (read as golf clubs) prefer to deal with people who are not strangers. I suggest that the job-hunter start 'campaigning' by 'phone to the person / persons who (may) contribute most to the hiring. Aggressive? Sure. You want a job don't you?

Don't take "no" as a deterrent. To quote Geo. B. Shaw: "People who get on in this world are the people who get up and look for the circumstances they want, and if they can't find them, make them."

O.K. so you insist on the resume. Here are a few pointers –

- Brevity before length, descriptive but understandable; state your current duties, highlight the most important ones; your skills; achievements; familiarity with budgets (cost conscious); contribution to work-related successes; problem-solving skills, extra-curricular courses / studies, professional association; sports, degrees etc. where applicable.

Try to keep the resume to a full page. Two pages are too many (pun intended). Most resume readers become bored (yes, true) after a page. Type it. Keep it fairly general

and avoid the subject of salary. That is discussed during a face-to-face meeting.

Assuming you're going to have an interview, the following will be helpful during the interview –

- Learn all you can about the golf club e.g. designer, club pro', President and specific Directors (Green Ch., Club Captain). If the G.M. is interviewing, try to get some background about him; learn of any 'problem' areas on / about the course. During the interview – at a judicious moment – mention 'something' positive (see above). It should show you've done some homework.

The interview (when most applicants would feel more comfortable on the rack!). These are some of the 'rules' to follow or risk being so much grass clippings cut by a dull rough unit! Your initial impact-a judgement call; so here goes –

- Cleanliness is next to Godliness. Need a haircut? Get one. Dress conservatively, neatly and shine your shoes (often neglected and always noticed). Wear a long-sleeved shirt. Only clerks and postal workers in the summer wear short sleeves! Wear a tie. Be punctual (or 'phone to say you'll be late. Have a valid reason, not a good excuse).

Here are some of the question you'll probably be asked (if the

interviewer is good: if he's poor / bad, maybe you should leave. The club may be just as poor / bad). Describe yourself (he's ignored the resume): please, tell me / us about yourself. How do you think your friends or peers describe you? What were the two or three most important tasks you've performed? Describe your goals, your strengths and weaknesses. What part of this job interests you the most? The least? What is your salary? (Try to avoid a direct answer). Why do you want to change jobs? Do you plan to take extra studies? Where? Why? When? How much golf do you play? Handicap? Belong to professional associations? Which? How long? Held any office in them? (Why not?)

Now it's your turn! Here are some questions to ask (always check body language) What is / are the primary problems facing the club? Change. Is the membership amenable to it? Are the Green Ch., Directors and you (G.M.) supportive? What are the budget restraints? Is there a time frame to complete such projects? Why would you advise anyone to take on this job? How many applicants have you? How frequently do you (the club) communicate with members? How? Do I have a say? I think I can do the job. Do you? When will you make your decision?



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# The "Super Crew"

by Eric Williamson, Superintendent  
Angus Glen Golf Club

A superintendent is only as good as his crew. He decides what, where, when, and how jobs will be done on the golf course. However, if the greens crew does not perform its job well the finished product on the golf course will reflect poorly on the super, even if he has made good decisions. On the other hand, a well-trained greens staff that is able to accept and understand instructions quickly, work steadily and effectively, and produce good results on the golf course with minimal supervision not only makes the super's job easier but will also provide him with more free time to attend to other responsibilities.

So where does this "Super Crew" come from? Generally speaking, we all find ourselves looking for staff in the spring of each year. Obviously, when the good workers from last year want to come back, there is a spot for them. However many of the students move on from year to year, finding either a better-paying summer job or a job that is better related to their field of study at college / university. So we post our job openings on the bulletin board at the OTS, place ads in the local paper, and sometimes even ask our returning staff members if they know any good people looking for summer work. Then comes the interviewing process.

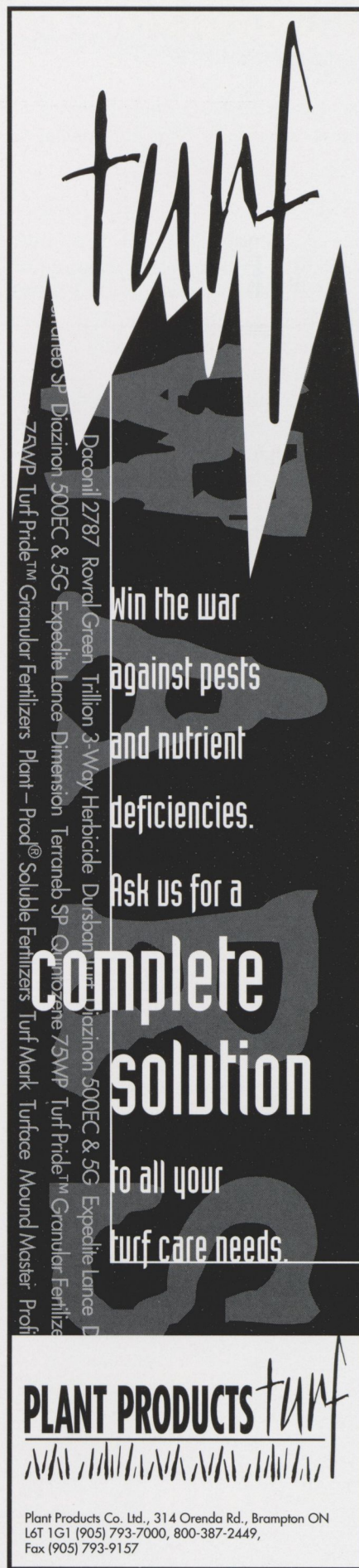
Typically, due to budget limitations, we cannot expect to hire a staff comprised entirely of good, qualified, experienced people. The more qualified, the more remuneration they will be seeking, and rightfully so. Indeed, usually we have to hire at least a couple of bodies who are a little less experienced and hope that with some intensive training we can mould them to fit right into our "Super Crew" within a month. However, it has been my experience that the odds of choosing the right

individuals are comparable to those at a Las Vegas Blackjack table. Candidates will show up for an interview with good references, sound eager to work, and look quite impressive only to turn out to be a "hunter" or a "hard lucker". Unfortunately, after showing symptoms of these afflictions, dismissal is often inevitable.

Some examples of these conditions and their symptoms are:

- i) The Hunter – Symptoms: Daily bypasses washstand at quitting time with bulging pockets, proceeds directly to staff parking lot and can be seen emptying small white items out of pockets and glove box of machine into trunk of car. Identifiable in 3 days.
- ii) The Hider / Sleeper – Symptoms: Disappears for hours at a time; bits of dirt and grass stuck in hair and on clothing at quitting time; sleep lines on face and little crusties in corners of eyes; production is very slow. Identifiable in 1 week maximum.
- iii) The Hard Lucker – Symptoms:  
Monday – Grandmother has heart attack at 3 am (Arrival at Work 9:45 am)  
Tuesday – Had a flat tire (AW 8:10 am)  
Wednesday – Uncle dies at 1am (AW 9:05 am)  
Thursday – Car caught fire when first tried to start it (AW 7:55 am)  
Friday – Accidentally dropped car keys down sewer grate beside car which was parked on the street because driveway at parents house was full of cars belonging to people who were attending the wake for recently deceased uncle (AW 9:35 am)  
Saturday – Had to go to air port to drop off parents who were

continued on page 9



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going to visit Grandmother who had another heart attack last night (AW 10:15 am)

Identifiable by Mid week (depending on how compassionate you are).

iv) The Throttle Jock – Symptoms: Arrives early for work every day (drives his car like he drives your equipment; also wants to be first into the equipment barn to claim the fastest utility vehicle for the day); drives to furthest point on the golf course then turns around and goes back to get his sunglasses; wears a stopwatch instead of a wristwatch. Identifiable first time given a vehicle to drive.

v) The Party Animal – Symptoms: Bloodshot eyes (if open enough to see them); bad breath; tends to

ask same question he asked five minutes ago; typically exhibits symptoms on weekend shifts. Identifiable on first weekend shift. Note: This condition is only a serious problem if it occurs on a regular basis.

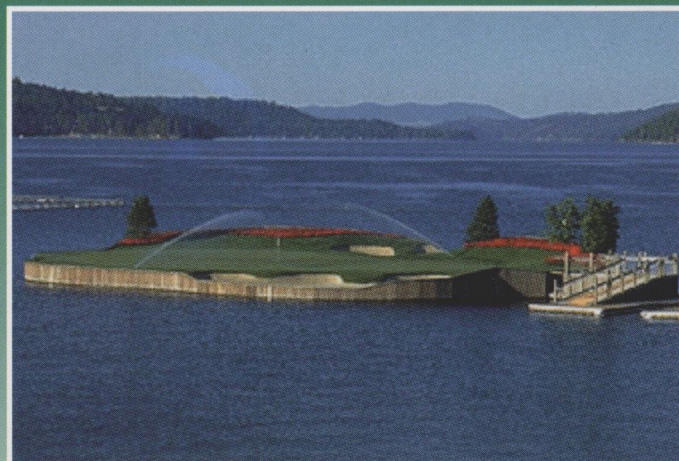
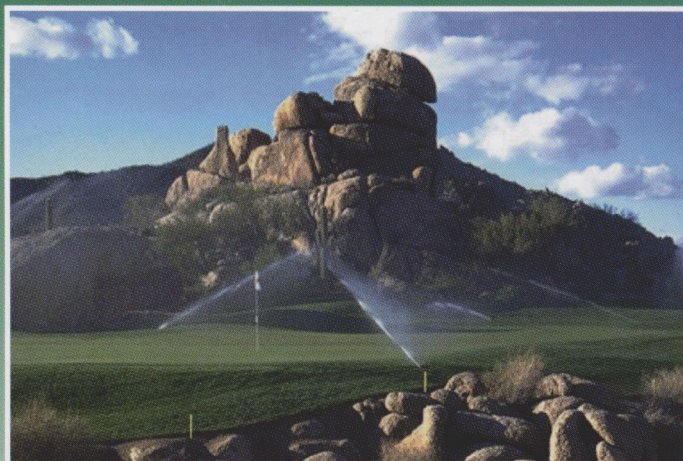
We have all seen these symptoms to some extent at one point or another, and if they persist, even after verbal treatment (i.e. warnings), dismissal is essential. These afflictions can become highly contagious if not treated quickly.

So, hang on to your good people. Sweeten the deal for them a little each season, if possible. Look for older guys who are retired farmers or crane operators or some such thing; people who are quite accustomed to sitting on and operating a machine for eight straight hours a day. Start the

interviewing process early, before all the good ones are gone. At the interview stage, beware of the candidate who, having been asked why he thinks he would like to work on your golf course, replies, "I love hard work! I work out, you know. I can benchpress 800 pounds! Hard work is what I live for! The harder, the better. And I love the outdoors! I could never work inside. I hate feeling closed in. Weather doesn't bother me. Sun, rain, hot or cold, I love it all!" Instead, consider the candidate who is soft spoken, deliberate and methodical in responding to your questions, and waits for you to suggest a rate of pay.

Good help is hard to find, but remains an important part of the job each spring. Behind every good superintendent is a "Super Crew".

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# Turf or consequences

by Doug Breen,  
Superintendent Calerin Golf Club

They say that the Inuit have over 200 words for snow. I know that over the past two months I've called it nearly 200 names myself, none of which can be printed here. El Niño has stepped aside for La Niña, the little sister who seems to have so terrified Mega-Mayor Mel Lastman, that he's reacting to what would be a routine snowfall in a place like Fort Erie, Orangeville, or Ottawa by calling in the Army. While watching the news the other night, I got to thinking about what a great example this is of how far detached the average Torontonians has become from the rest of Ontario. There were people on the T.V. trying to dig out their cars from snow bank with garden rakes and Tupperware containers. One guy in

particular was complaining about how the city crews were unprepared for the snowfall as he was hacking away at the drifts with (I'm not kidding) a cutting board. This is Canada – buy a shovel! For years my wife was employed by the City of Toronto Parks Department, and no one she worked with would venture out of the city to far off Rockwood for a visit. They honestly thought that anything north of the 401 would certainly require an overnight stay.

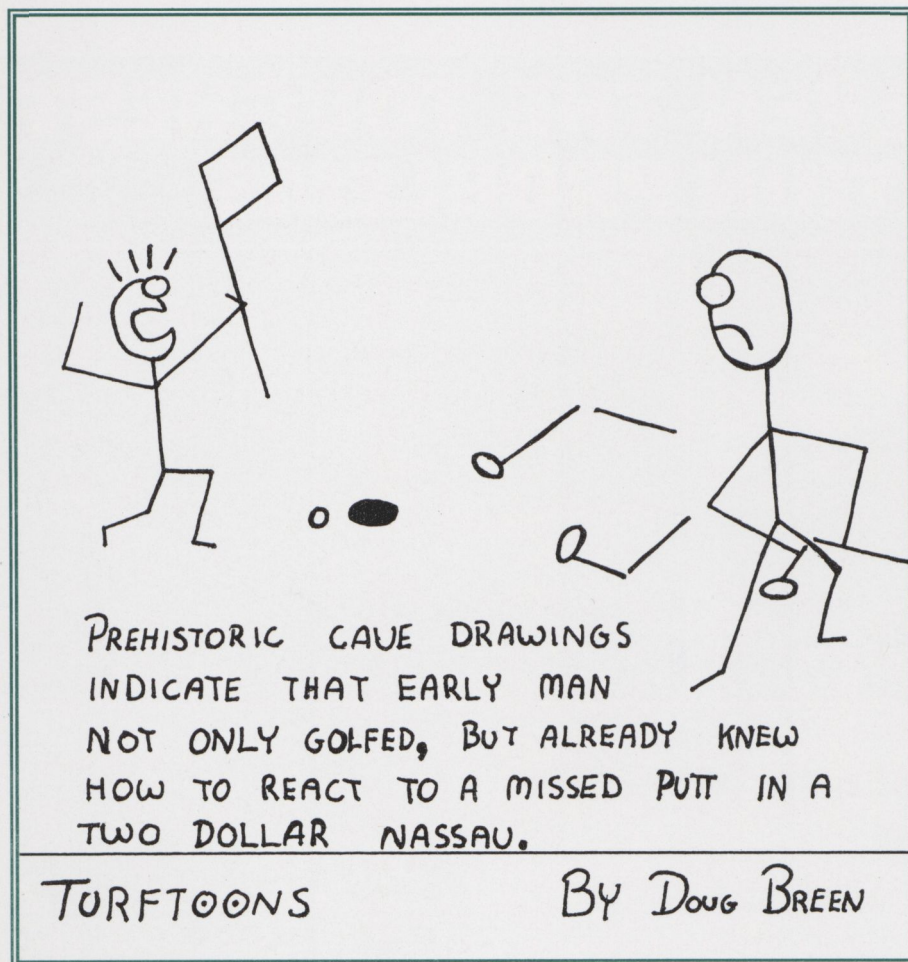
The truth is, many people only leave the city for one thing – golf. I dare say, that if it wasn't for the plentiful and high quality courses in Ontario, there are many who would never see the Caledon Hills, Georgian Bay or the Niagara



Escarpment. In fact, through golf, many brave souls have not only gone north of the 401, but all the way to Highway 9. Some have discovered the Niagara Peninsula while others have ventured beyond Oshawa and there are even rumours of life west of Mississauga.

According to recent statistics, more than 50% of Toronto's population is made up of 1st generation Canadians, and the reaction to January's snowfall would certainly indicate that this is true. Many people go from their apartment to the underground parking lot to another underground parking lot to work and home again. Not only do folks not deal with shoveling snow, but most have never had the fun of thawing out a frozen fuel line in a blizzard. Now, I'm not putting down Toronto, I like the Leafs as much as the next guy and you can always count on the Argos for an easy two points for my Tiger-Cats, but the fact is, the city tends to think of itself as the centre of the province, the country and the universe and it's good to see that La Niña is reminding it what the rest of us deal with every winter.

Obviously, not everyone in Toronto is this insulated, but many are, and I'm proud to be part of the industry which brings people to rural Ontario, shows them more of the province, or at least gets them to go outside.





## Curling Anyone?

The North Halton Golf Club is once again hosting a curling day to all those interested.

**Date:** Wednesday, March 17, 1999

**Place:** North Halton Golf Club  
363 Maple Avenue, West  
Georgetown, Ontario L7B 4S5

**Time:** 12:30 pm

**Fee:** \$10.00 at the door to cover lunch

Anyone who is interested in joining in on this day of curling please contact either:

Al Beeney at North Halton Golf Club:

Phone: 905-877-8784

Fax: 905-877-5238

Dorothy Hills at O.G.S.A.

Phone: 519-767-3341 (Toll Free 1-877-824-6472)

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**Is anyone interested in being a SKIP?**

## Getaway Winner!



Chuck Egleston of Nutrite Hydro Agri is seen recently congratulating Robert Cowan of Royal Woodbine Golf and Country Club. Robert was the drawn winner of a Southern Golf Getaway for two, sponsored by Nutrite Hydro Agri, Sustane Corporation, and Pursell Technologies. Robert's name was selected from a pool of purchasers of Sustane's 10-2-10 Polyon TM

*I*n the December '98 issue of Green is Beautiful we listed those who sponsored the OSC / Nutrite 10th annual seminar series.

We apologize for any spelling errors and would like to thank again those sponsors. Your support is greatly appreciated.

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# Ontario Turfgrass Symposium 1999

## The 1999 Ontario Turfgrass Symposium

by Rob Witherspoon

Turf management professionals from across the province slid in to Toronto in early January on the

*Biggest snow storm in decades did not put a damper on the spirits of the OTS attendees.*

heels of one of the biggest snow storms to hit the city in several decades. They took shelter from the elements in the Regal Constellation Conference Centre and gathered in the warmth of fellowship and education.

The conference was officially opened by OTS Chair Rhod Trainor. Rob Witherspoon then took the podium to provide a review of the many research, education and industry service programs conducted at the Guelph Turfgrass Institute over the past year. CBC Sports host Brian Williams delivered an entertaining keynote address

*Renowned sports caster, Brian Williams who has covered many Olympic events entertained the audience with some amusing anecdotes.*

providing a glimpse behind the scenes at the Olympics. He also spoke of the trials and tribulations of working with Don Cherry. Bob Weeks, editor of Score magazine,

provided some background regarding their top 50 course selection during the session for greens chairs, club presidents, and club managers.

The weekend snow storm provided many challenges for exhibitors moving displays and equipment into the trade show area. In spite of snow-induced traffic and parking problems the move-in proceeded very smoothly. Kudos to the exhibitors and their staff for their patience and good humour in the face of a difficult situation. The sold out trade show opened on Tuesday morning and traffic was steady throughout the two days. Exhibitor wares reflected

*Good humour prevailed amongst the exhibitors while coping with challenging situations.*

the continuing move within the industry towards more highly specialized equipment, materials and management technology.

The three day educational program provided valuable information on a wide variety of topics. The presentations that seemed to generate the most discussion around the coffee urns and under the Banyan Tree were the use of composts and soil microbial activity, pre-conditioning turf to enhance stress tolerance, managing the new bentgrasses, new technologies for turfgrass management, and the latest research on disease management. Given the conditions of the past season, anything dealing with

water quality and irrigation also generated lots of interest.

Speakers in the golf courses sessions invited from outside Ontario included Rick Elyea from

*Many outstanding speakers provided valuable information during the Golf Course Sessions.*

Tee-2-Green Corporation, Dr. Dick Schmidt from Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Dr. Joe DiPaola from Novartis, David Zoldoske from the Centre for Irrigation Technology at California State University, Dr. Rich Cooper from North Carolina State University and David Oatis the Northeastern Director of the USGA Green Section. Ontario speakers included Bob Weeks, Chris Vander Kant of the Soil Stewartship Group, Greg Patterson of A&L Laboratories, David Smith of DCS Agronomic Services and Corrie Almack of Almack and Associates. Guelph Turfgrass Institute speakers included Brenda Walsh, Dr. Gary Parkin, Dr. Ken Carey, Dr. Jack Eggens and Dr. Tom Hsiang. OMAFRA Turf Specialist Pam Charbonneau is to be congratulated for once again pulling together an exceptional program.

*A lesson in being prepared for the unexpected and emergency responses.*

The Innovative Superintendents session on Thursday afternoon

continued on page 13



featured Weston Golf Club Assistant Owen Russell and Augusta National student intern David Kuypers. Members of the audience cringed in their seats while Owen described the senseless damage inflicted by vandalism just prior to the club's Mens' Invitational. The Weston team should be commended for their professional response which was described in detail during Owen's presentation. David Kuypers provided a view of preparation for the Masters tournament from the unique perspective of a member of the greens staff. Of particular interest was the detailed emergency response that was brought into play by heavy rains that flooded the course early in the competition.

The Symposium closed with the third Collegiate Challenge, hosted by Dr. Jack Eggens with Pam Charbonneau and Ken Carey

*Ken Carey says, "It's really nice to see the degree team from Guelph win. As each of the three teams have now won, it'll be interesting to see which team will break that tie in the year 2,000."*

providing technical assistance. Teams representing Seneca College, and the University of Guelph degree and diploma programs squared off. In the end the extra two years of

education, tuition, Kraft Dinner and Keg discussions paid off for the degree men from Guelph as they won bragging rights for the '99 season.

Mark your Y2K compliant calendars now for the millennial Ontario Turfgrass Symposium "Tools for 2000" scheduled for January 4-6, 2000.

### OGSA President's Reception

by Rob Ackermann  
O.G.S.A. Public Relations

On Wednesday January 6, 1999 the OGSA hosted their Annual President's Reception. In only its second year, this increasingly popular event is quickly becoming a premier event on the OGSA calendar. The reception provides an excellent opportunity for our members to mix in a social setting to casually discuss the state of our business.

This year's reception definitely showcased the rich history of the OGSA. To start the celebration of our 75th Anniversary, we asked everyone to help put names to faces on a slew of old photos recently found at the OGSA office. These old photos are an important link to our past that celebrate the history of our association and our profession. Thanks to everyone who helped.

Plaques were presented to our new AA Life and 25 year Associate members. Congratulations go to:

Robert Brewster  
Richard Creed  
Barry Endicott  
Cecil Roy French  
Bill Glashan  
Blake McMaster  
Bruce Summers  
Kenneth Wright  
G.C. Duke Equipment  
Gordon Bannerman Ltd.  
McCracken Golf Supplies  
Skyway Lawn Equipment Ltd.  
The Scotts Company  
Turf Care Products

Congratulations are also in order for the winners of this years OGSA scholarships. Melissa White and Lindsay Preston attended with their families to receive the Heritage and Legacy awards, respectively.

I would like to thank Greg O'Heron of the Peterborough Golf & Country Club for being our roving photographer at this special event.

I will conclude with a special thank-you to all the Associate Members who helped make this special event possible through their generous donations.

Allturf Ltd.  
Arborist Tree Service  
Braemar Building Systems  
G.C. Duke Equipment Ltd.

continued on page 14



Recipient of the Heritage Scholarship Melissa White, with parents.



Recipient of the Turfgrass Scholarship Lindsay Preston with parents.



## OGSA President's Reception (continued)

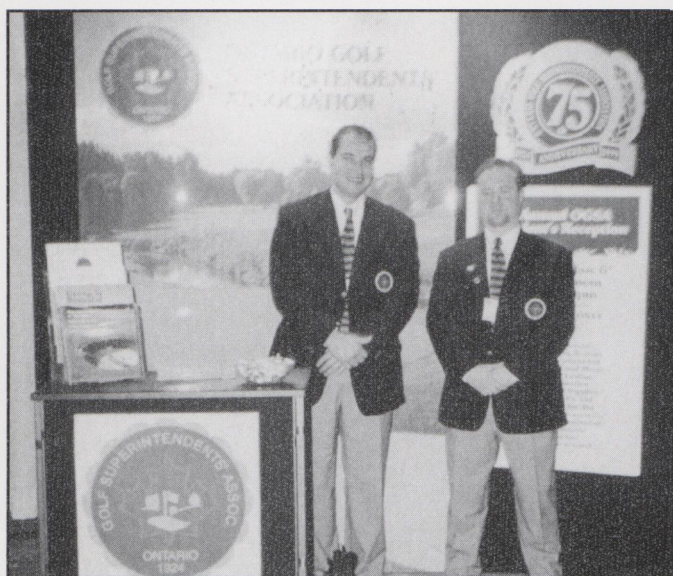
Hutcheson Sand and Mixes  
McCracken Golf Supply  
Maxium Golf Leasing  
Nu-Gro Corporation  
Plant Products Company Ltd.  
Rothwell Seeds Int / Abt  
Scotts Company  
    – Proturf Division  
Skyway Lawn Equipment Ltd.  
Turf Care Products  
Turf Drain Inc.  
Zander Sod Company Limited  
Until next year

## How Many Tees In The Basket??

Thanks to all those who dropped by the OGSA booth and tried to guess how many tees were in the basket. The actual number of tees in the basket was 575. No one guessed the right amount. None the less we do have a winner. Mr. Kevin Miket of Nutri Lawn in Nepean, Ontario guessed 565, which was the closest guess. Kevin has been sent his Second Skin Fleece Sweatshirt, and we here at O.G.S.A. offer our Congratulations.

## Booth

If you visited the O.G.S.A. booth this year, you will have noticed that we took on a brand new look. A new booth with full length graphics. We would like to thank Paul Scenna for providing us with a photograph of the 6th hole at Donalds Club in Don Mills, Ontario. It was from this photograph that the picture for the booth was prepared.



Rob Ackermann and Ian Bowen tending the O.G.S.A. Booth



David Gourley, Superintendent at Club Summerlea, in Quebec tries to sell Keith Bartlett, Superintendent at Thornhill Country Club one of the O.G.S.A. Wind Shells that was on display at the O.T.S. Conference.

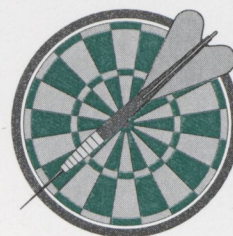
## Turf Industry 15th Annual Dart Tournament

When: Monday, March 22, 1999  
Where: Army Navy Club  
765 Third Street, Mississauga  
(1 block north of Lakeshore Rd. - east off of Cawthra Rd.)  
Cost: \$15.00/person (includes refreshments, food and prizes)  
Registration: 3:00 P.M.  
Darts: 3:30 P.M.

To enter, contact: Ted Hartwell at 905-271-5511 or Bob Barbour at 705- 562-2878 or Todd Clarke at 905-844-1800.

*Last year players and spectators enjoyed an entertaining afternoon as a team from the eastern Division of the Canadian Irrigation Association defeated Weston. However, thanks to all the participants' generosity, despite our low numbers we donated \$350.00 to the G.T.I. building fund. So the next time you are in Guelph, stop by and check out our Brick. Since the first tournament in 1984, we have sent over \$5,500.00 to the O.T.R.F. or G.T.I.*

*Thanks to all the suppliers and their Reps for their participation and prize donations.*



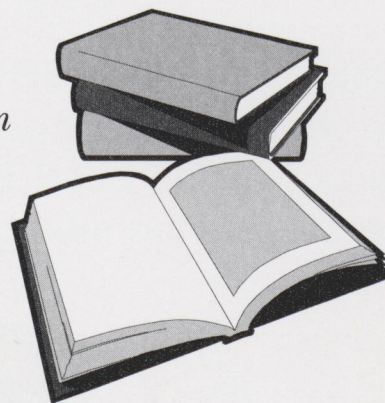


## Take a Walk Down Memory Lane with the O.G.S.A.

*With our 75th Anniversary upon us the O.G.S.A. is proud and excited to announce a mammoth undertaking. A hard cover book on*

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

*from its conception in 1875 through to and including our 75th Anniversary year, 1999.*



This idea was conceived when the editorial committee of *Green is Beautiful* met on January 27th at the G.T.I. to plan a special 75th Anniversary issue of the magazine. After much debate brainstorming, discussion and the unearthing of old memories, the committee unanimously decided they would like to put their efforts into a permanent, first class publication, depicting the factual history of greenskeeping in Ontario. We all agreed that it would take an awful lot of planning and leg work to complete such an undertaking; however, everyone is geared up and ready to get to work. We are eager and capable of the task at hand. **"YOU DON'T STAY IN BUSINESS FOR 75 YEARS BY BEING LUCKY!"**

The concept was presented to the Board of Directors by Mark Piccolo and James Wyllie at their meeting on February 2nd. Discussion pursued and a vote was taken to accept the proposal. All were in favour.

There is an abundance of information to collect, archives to catalogue, interviews to be done, as this book is to encompass the entire industry of Greenskeeping in Ontario including such items as greens construction, evolution of equipment, scientific advancement, humorous items of days gone by, past presidents pages, interviews with senior association members, how our association has progressed, as well as any items that would be of interest to our members. The intention is to provide a hardcover book of approximately 100 to 150 pages, that will hopefully be an excellent coffee table book.

Paul White, Mark Schneider and John Arends have already met to attack the humongous pile of photographs. They will meet on a regular basis to identify and catalogue mounds of archival material. Good Luck fellows.

We are very excited about this undertaking and are asking the membership to support it by providing information, interviews and photographs relevant to the subject matter.

In the near future a complete Editorial Committee list of members and contact numbers will be provided so that you can contact them if you have any historical information you can contribute.

***Watch for an update on this undertaking in the April issue of *Green is Beautiful*.***



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## WHAT'S HAPPENING?

### TELL US WHAT YOU'RE PLANNING!

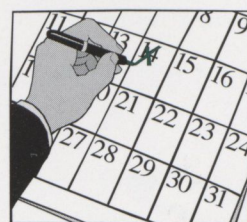
As you know, the golf industry in Ontario is very active. There are an increasing number of organizations holding seminars, golf days and other functions. Often there are event conflicts. Two events on the same day or even in the same week usually result in poor attendance. Why waste all that hard work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

The OGSA would like to offer a Master Calendar as a new service to our members. The calendar will go out bi-monthly as an insertion in *Green Is Beautiful* and will contain a listing of all events scheduled for the upcoming four 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 at any time during the year, and your event will be printed in the OGSA 1999 Calendar of Events.

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

**LOOK FOR THE CALENDAR OF  
EVENTS INSERT WITH THIS ISSUE.**





## The Roster

*With spring quickly approaching we are trying to make sure our membership records are up-to-date so that the 1999 Roster can go to print. With your help we can get it out earlier than last year. If you have not paid your dues and returned your Membership Information Sheet would you please do so immediately. Our records are only as good as the information you provide us with. If you have any questions don't hesitate to contact Dorothy at the O.G.S.A. Office.*

### Equipment for Sale

1994 Toro 4500D, 999 hours	\$30,000.00
1994 National Triples, 400 hours	\$ 6,500.00
1994 John Deere 21" Walkers (4)	\$ 3,200.00 each or \$12,000 for Lot
100 used Accuform short rake handles	\$7.00 ea.

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Curtis, Don or Bob  
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Hidden Lake Golf Club, Burlington, Ontario  
(905) 336-8774



# New Distributor for Jacobsen Turf Equipment

## Ontario Turf Equipment Co. Ltd.

by Mike Mayne

OTEC wishes to announce that it has sold the Jacobsen Turf Equipment portion of its business to G.C. Duke Equipment, effective January 5, 1999. This means that Duke Equipment will be responsible for the Sale and Service of Jacobsen Equipment in most of Ontario.

The recent purchase of Ransomes, Cushman & Ryan by Textron, which already owned Jacobsen, meant that there would be changes in the way these products were distributed in the marketplace, including Ontario. Textron's goal was to have all products in one distribution channel. Different options were discussed, but after careful consideration, we felt this decision was the right one. This means that Customers in Ontario can source all Textron products from one supplier.

Ontario Turf Equipment was founded in 1975. Originally, the Company focused on Golf Course Accessories and Aftermarket Service Parts.

In 1982, Jacobsen chose Ontario Turf Equipment as its distributor in Ontario. Since that time our Company has grown into an organization with over 20 people operating out of a 4 Acre facility in London with 60,000 sq. ft. of office, shop and warehouse space.

Over the years OTEC has built a solid reputation for providing a high level of support for Customers

across Ontario. During that time Ontario Turf was awarded 6 Jacobsen Distributor of the Year Awards and was inducted into the Jacobsen Golden Reel Club.

While it was a big decision to sell the Jacobsen portion of our business, we will continue to be active in the Turf Industry.

We have a large inventory of various makes and models of used equipment available. These machines can be purchased "as is" or fully reconditioned and ready for the 1999 season.

In new equipment, we will continue to represent Turfco Manufacturing (MeterMatic Topdressers), Progressive Turf (Rotary Mowers) including the new Flex Deck 120 and Goossen Industries (Versa Vac, Blowers),.

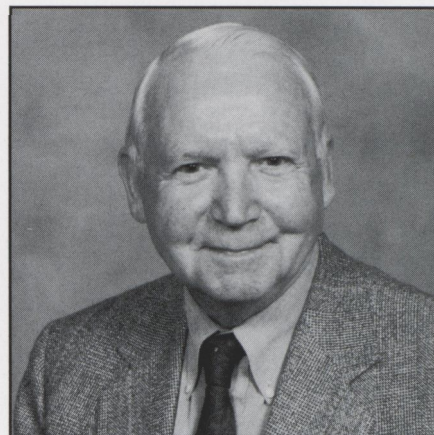
We also handle a number of products and accessories, including Par Aide, Standard Golf and R & R Service Parts.

We look forward to continuing our relationship with all our Customers in 1999.

## G.C. Duke Equipment Ltd. - Acquires Jacobsen Franchise

On January 5th, 1999 G.C. Duke Equipment of Burlington, Ontario completed the purchase of the Jacobsen franchise for most of the province of Ontario from Ontario Turf Equipment.

The late 1997 purchase of Ransomes, Cushman and Ryan by



Mike Mayne

Textron, which is the parent company of Jacobsen, meant that there would be major changes and consolidations in distributorships across North America and the rest of the world. The new Textron Company which would encompass Jacobsen, Ransomes, Cushman, and Ryan was named Textron Turf Care and Specialty Products. As a result, the management of G.C. Duke Equipment entered into discussions with O.T.E.C. and reached an agreement on the purchase of the Jacobsen franchise that took effect on January 5, 1999.

G.C. Duke Equipment celebrated its 50th year of operation in 1998. The firm was founded by Clinton Duke and was operated out of a small facility on Plains Road in Burlington. As the business grew, the facility was gradually expanded to its present size of 100,000 square feet on 5 acres of land.

continued on page 19



continued from page 18

Company president Richard Duke feels the G.C. Duke Equipment now offers one of the most complete lines of equipment for the golf course industry. "The Jacobsen line has always been extremely well accepted by golf superintendents in Ontario and we felt it would be an excellent addition to our existing range of equipment", says Richard Duke.

Immediate plans by G.C. Duke are to open satellite service facilities in London as well as Eastern Ontario. Duke has already hired additional sales, service and parts staff to ensure customers receive a high level of service.

"O.T.E.C. always enjoyed an excellent reputation for after sales parts and service and our commitment is to continue to provide a premium level of service to existing Jacobsen customers as well as to our Ransomes / Cushman customers", said General Manager, Nolan Duke. "We are just completing the installation of a complete new computer system with customized software to improve our internal efficiency. We have also ordered additional service vehicles in anticipation of the increased service demand due to the Jacobsen acquisition." Customers can also expect an increased level of service from their sales representatives. According to Vice-President of Sales, Dick Raycroft, "We will have six representatives focusing strictly on Textron Turf Care Products such as Jacobsen, Cushman, Ransomes and Ryan, an additional two representatives will specialize in allied products such as Lastec, Foley, National, and Smithco. The company also has two representatives concentrating strictly on Professional Lawn Care Equipment for the commercial mowing market. This increased specialization on smaller product ranges will, we believe, improve the level of service we can offer our customers.

According to Nolan Duke, "The acquisition of Jacobsen finally allows us to offer our customers a complete line of turf equipment. It is a great challenge for all of us at Duke to ensure our level of service meets our customers expectations."

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## **NEWS FLASH**

### **NEW MEMBERSHIP CLASS F GOLF COURSE TECHNICIAN**

Class F – Golf Course Technician: To qualify for Class F membership; an applicant shall have at the time of application at least one (1) year experience as a golf course technician under the supervision of a Class A or B Golf Course Superintendent. A Class F member shall have all the privileges of the Association except that of voting and holding office. FEE \$55.00 + G.S.T.

This new class will open up the membership to many individuals who have completed their one year membership as a student but have not moved up into the Assistant Superintendent classification.

#### **CLASS D – BY-LAW CHANGE**

From: Class D – A Class D member shall be: 1) a person associated with or in charge of the maintenance of a golf facility or 2) is a person employed at a university, college or turf related facility and is active in the business or is in education and / or research that is a direct benefit to the turf industry. Class D members shall have all the privileges of the association except that of voting and holding office.

To: Class D – A Class D member shall be: 1) a person associated with or in charge of the maintenance of a golf facility or, 2) a person employed at a university, college or turf related facility and is active in the business, or is in education and / or research that is a direct benefit to the turf industry. Class D members shall have all the privileges of the association except that of voting and holding office. Membership in this class may be granted upon application at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

Reason: This change allows the Board of Directors to decide who qualifies for this Class.



# Introducing your 1999 O.G.S.A. board of directors



Back Row Left to Right: David Cours, Jeff Burgess, Rob Ackermann, Keith Bartlett, Mark Piccolo, Simon George, Lamont Anderson (1998 Director), John Gravett, Jim Flett.  
Front Row Left to Right: Dean Baker, Ian Bowen. (Bob Heron and Paul Scenna not available for photo).

*L*amont Anderson has stepped down from the Board of Directors. Thank you Monte for all your time and effort. David Cours was appointed in the Fall of 1998 and Paul Scenna was appointed January 1999. Welcome ABOARD fellows.

**Past President:** Simon George  
Oakville Golf Club, P.O. Box 129, Oakville, Ontario L6T 4S5

**President:** Ian Bowen  
Oshawa Golf Club, P.O. Box 36, Oshawa Golf Club L1H 7K8

**Vice-President:** Keith Bartlett  
Thornhill Golf Club, 7994 Yonge St., Thornhill, Ontario L4J 1W3

**Treasurer:** John Gravett  
Credit Valley Golf Club, 2500 Old Carriage Rd., Mississauga, Ontario L5C 1Y7

**Secretary:** Jim Flett  
Muskoka Lakes Golf & Country Club, P.O. Box 280, Port Carling, Ontario P0B 1J0

**Golf & Meetings:** Keith Barlett  
- Chairman of Committee  
Dean Baker - Co Chairman  
Paul Scenna

**Public Relations:**  
Rob Ackermann  
John Gravett

**Membership:** Jim Flett  
Dave Cours

**Scholarship:** Jeff Burgess

**Roster:** Bob Heron  
Dean Baker

**OTS:** Jeff Burgess - Chairman  
Simon George Co Chairman

**GCSAA:** Bob Heron  
Keith Barlett

**By-Laws:** Dave Cours

**Newsletter:** Mark Piccolo  
Bob Heron

**OTRF:** Jeff Burgess

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# Looking back

## Five years ago today

by Barry Endicott,  
Nobleton Lakes Golf Club

**1994** Board of Directors: **Bruce Burger** (president), Lakeview, **John Taylor** (vice), Twenty Valley, **David Gourlay** (past), Club Summerlea, **Simon George** (sec.), Oakville, **Alex Labelle** (tres.), Carlton Golf Club, **Doug Suter** (editor), Credit Valley, **Rick Serrao**, Glendale, **Ken Nelson**, Sutton Creek, **Ian Bowen**, Oshawa, **Paul Dodson**, Aurora Highlands, **Jerry Richard**, Craigowen and **Mark Schneider**, Owen Sound.

New Members: **Patrick Simms**, Thornhill CC (F), **David deHaan**, M K Rittebhouse & Sons (E), **Caleb Howald**, Ariss Valley GC (B), **Gord Dol**, Dol Turf Restoration (E), **Craig Mortimer**, Cedar Brae GC (F), **Donna Harrison**, Garden City Municipal GC (B), **Claudio Vona**, Castlemore GC (F), **Gary Allen**, Westminister Trails GC (F), **Bruce Paterson**, Angus Glen GC (F), **Eric Williamson**, Angus Glen GC (F), **Ernie Amsler**, Angus Glen GC (B), **Mike Ettles**, The Toronto Hunt (F), **Tim Schaly**, Muskoka Lakes (F)

On the move: **Alex Labelle** moved from the Carleton Golf and Yacht Club to Merryhill Golf Club. **Warren Vout** left Cedarbrae and went to Brampton Golf Club where **Blake McMaster** has become GM after years of being the superintendent. **Steve Hallard** took over at Cedarbrae. **Ken Graham** was the new super at Huntington and **Alex McLeod** went from Hockley Valley to Spring Lakes. **Jim Molenhuis** left Lionhead to work at the new Club Link Course Lake St. Joseph. **Jimmy Sera** left Trafalgar and took on the position at Carlyle. **Dave Schmelefske** left Merryhill and joined Ontario Seed Company and **Everett Nieuwkoop** joined McCracken Golf Supplies.

**Bill Bowen**, superintendent at Dalewood Golf Club, passed away from an apparent heart attack in his sleep at the age of 61. **Dr. Jack Eggens** is taking early retirement and **Sam DePinto**

retired from Beverley Golf and Country Club.

Spring Field Day was held at the Cutten Club on May 30th hosted by **Richard Creed**. **Thom Charters** and **Bruce Burger** were tied for low gross with a 73 and **John Taylor** was low net. The Superintendent Pro Tournament was held Victoria Park on Sept 6th hosted by **David Decorso**. All proceeds were donated to the Canadian Diabetics Society, in memory of **Bill Bowen**.

The Alex McClumpha Golf Tournament was held on Oct. 3rd at Thornhill Golf and Country Club, hosted by **Keith Bartlet**. It was the 50th anniversary with everybody receiving a nice watch commemorating the event The winner of the George Darou Trophy for best senior golfer was **Roy French** of Sturgeon Point Golf Club.

## O.G.S.A. Past Presidents



Left to right back row: Bob Moote, Art Dodson, Alex Labelle, Barry Endicott, Simon George, John Arends, Bruce Burger, Thom Charters.

Front row: Hugh Kirkpatrick, Mark Hagen, Paul White, John Taylor, Pelino Scenna.

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# Diesel fuel, the big mystery



If you have diesel engines, you no-doubt have discovered that diesel engine operation and maintenance is a whole lot more complex than gas and requires a more disciplined approach. This is especially true when it comes to fuel storage, handling and treatment. Poor quality diesel fuel coupled with closer tolerances in diesel fuel pumps and injectors made us more concerned about proper fuel conditioning prior to use. We have to deal with four types of contamination:

1. **Particulate** primarily due to poor handling and storage.
2. **Biological growth** algae and other microscopic life which will clog filters.
3. **Wax formation** paraffin in diesel fuel will solidify when temperatures drop below 0 degrees Fahrenheit.
4. **Water contamination** due to condensation or poor handling practices.

The **particulate** found in fuels can be eliminated with the use of good quality fuel filters. (check with manufacturer for beta ratio). **Wax formation** can be eliminated by keeping the fuel warm using an in-tank fuel warmer. Now we are down to the major cause of fuel problems, **water contamination**. Water combined with diesel fuel produces bacterial growth. Eliminate the water, and you eliminate this contaminant. Inconsistency in diesel fuel handling, storage and delivery systems, all contribute to water in the fuel. Changes in the atmospheric temperature can cause condensation to form on tank walls and accumulate in the bottom of the tank. Two classifications of water are present in fuel: **free water** and **emulsified water**. Free water is visible in large droplets or as a layer found at the bottom of the tank. However, once vibration or movement

occurs in the fuel system, free water is broken down into tiny particles and emulsified, or mixed with fuel. Both free and emulsified water should be removed from the fuel supply. There are many brands of water removal products on the market. **Fuel additives, absorbent materials, and fuel / water separators.** Remember, optimum engine life, performance, and low operating costs depend upon delivering pure fuel to the combustion chambers. A well thought out fuel treatment or conditioning program, by improving your fuel quality will go a long way towards lower maintenance costs, increased engine life, improved fuel economy, and reduced engine exhaust emissions.

(Submitted by  
GOLF EQUIPMENT TECHNICIAN'S  
ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO)

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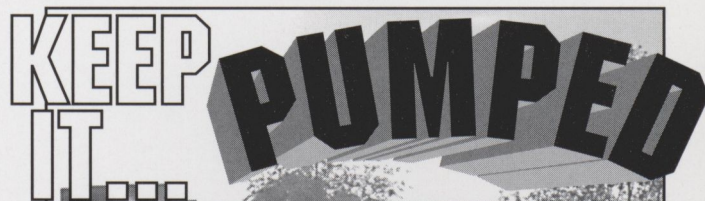
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