

June 2001

# Green is Beautiful

The Official Publication of Ontario Golf Superintendents' Association

**Spring Field Day**

**Border city roundup**

**Pro / Super challenge**

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**Product:** The RedMax®, Reciprocator™ is a unique Patented "Four In One" Edger, Trimmer, Brushcutter & Pruner that cuts like gas Powered scissors.

**Models:** SCGZ2500S: 25.4cc Strato-Charged™ 2-Cycle  
SCGX2600S: 26.2cc 4-Cycle

In order for golf course superintendents to maintain a nice tight edge around bunkers, they must trim and edge bunkers a number of times during a golf season. With the average golf course having 63 bunkers that labor cost alone is a place to look for reducing costs.

### LABOR COST WITHOUT USING A RECIPROCATOR™

Using string trimmers, spades and other various tools, it takes 2 grounds crew persons 45 minutes to complete the edging and cleanup of each sand trap - bunker.

45 minutes x 63 bunkers = 47 hours, 15 minutes  
2 grounds crew persons @ \$8.00 per hour = \$16.00  
\$16.00 x 47 hours & 15 minutes = \$756.00 labor cost

### LABOR COST WHEN USING A RECIPROCATOR™

Using a Reciprocator™, it takes 1 grounds crew person 20 minutes to complete the edging and cleanup of each sand trap - bunker.

20 minutes x 63 bunkers = 21 hours  
1 grounds crew person @ \$8.00 per hour = \$8.00  
\$8.00 x 47 hours & 15 minutes = \$168.00 labor cost

Labor cost without using the Reciprocator™: \$726.67  
Labor cost when using the Reciprocator™: \$168.00

### COST SAVINGS

when using the Reciprocator™: **\$558.67**



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**Carburetor:** Disphragm w/purge pump  
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# Green is Beautiful

The Official Publication of Ontario Golf Superintendents' Association



## COVER PICTURE

**Guelph Lakes Golf  
& Country Club**

Photo by: John Bladon

*OGSA is committed to  
serving its members,  
advancing their profession,  
and  
enriching the quality  
of golf  
and its environment.*



## President's message

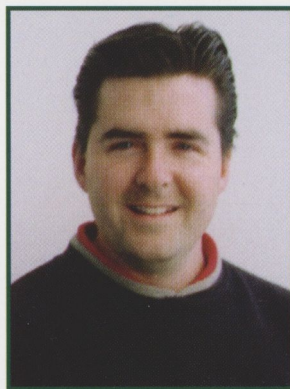
*The OGSA is committed to serving its members, advancing their profession, and enriching the quality of golf and its environment.*

What a great organization! Several folks who belong to the OGSA have taken the time to communicate to us just how pleased they are to be members of the OGSA. From the services offered to offering great service, we can all be proud of our history and the prosperity this organization continues to experience.

The year 2001 will be a banner year for the OGSA! New members continue to pour in at an astonishing rate. Participation levels for golf events and support from our Associate Members are on the rise. There are so many exciting initiatives that are now well underway. Our new web site continues to draw more interest; the summer release of the OGSA history book will prove to be a winner. The Green Is Beautiful magazine continues to be one of the best 'association produced' magazines in North America. The Conference Sub-Committee is continuing its research and negotiations on the annual conference and show. Improving the education offering by our organization is high on the priority list for 2001. How do we possibly thank all those who have contributed to the OGSA and who will continue to contribute into the future?

It really amazes me how inaccurate some of the information is regarding pesticide use in the community. Despite the ongoing efforts of industry professionals to communicate the facts to the public, the facts in most cases are not getting through. Several municipalities across Canada are looking at ways to ban the use of pesticides, both for home and commercial uses. We all have a responsible role to play when it comes to communicating the true facts of pesticide use on golf courses. Most people fear what they don't understand and we, as professionals need to fully disclose our expertise in this area. A recent Toronto Life supplemental publication on gardening was inaccurate with respect to the use of pesticides in lawns and gardens. This 'trendy' publication had it all wrong. There is no doubt that a bigger 'bite' of anti-pesticide views are coming and with more teeth. The recent hold on all development in the Oak Ridges Moraine in Ontario announced by the provincial government is another indication that environmental groups are being heard. We must continue to educate the public on how safe these products really are when used properly by trained personnel. We have a good news story to tell. Communicate, communicate, communicate.

We continue to mourn the loss of Hugh ("Hughie") Kirkpatrick. The world has lost a true gentleman, father, grandfather, husband, friend, mentor and one of the best superintendents in this country. It is certainly not surprising to see the tremendous outpouring of sympathy for Rose Kirkpatrick and the entire family. Hughie respected everyone in the golf profession and was always reminding others of how thankful he was for both a great family and work environment. We will miss him dearly...



John Gravett  
The Granite Club



### ONTARIO GOLF SUPERINTENDENTS' ASSOCIATION

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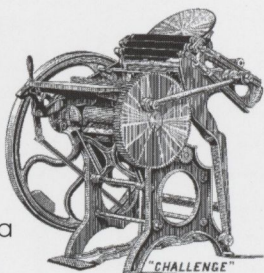
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# In Memoriam

by Mark Schneider  
Owen Sound Golf & Country Club

## Hugh Kirkpatrick 1941-2001

*"If I have been able to see farther than most it is because I have stood on the shoulders of giants."*

-Albert Einstein

The turfgrass industry lost one of its giants June 9th with Hugh's sudden passing at Westmount after a quiet game of golf. We will remember his broad smile, quick wit and unwavering professionalism. During a career that lasted over 40 years, Hugh developed a vast array of friends in every aspect of our industry. He touched the lives of many superintendents, assistants, turf researchers, contractors, suppliers and golf course architects.

Hugh started in the business in the late 50's with his father, Doug and brothers, Dick and Jerry. Based out of Norwich, Ontario, they began building golf courses in Midwestern Ontario and quickly gained a reputation for exquisite and timely work. Some of their early work included Bayview, Beverly, Oxford (Craigowen), Dalewood and Conestoga.



They began doing work for renowned architect C.F. (Robbie) Robinson and traveled across Canada, working in all provinces except Quebec and B.C. His skill on a bulldozer was unequaled and he was able to shape the most complex features using a simple 2-way blade. During this time, Hugh developed an ability to understand the game; it's architecture and the influence of course maintenance on a player's enjoyment of a round. After hours on these construction sites, he would pick up a couple of clubs and shag balls into recently completed greens. Competitive by nature, Hugh quickly realized that in order to understand the significance of the work he was doing, he had to play the game. His golfing ability blossomed and a love of the game was born.

In the late 50's, while building Beverly Golf Club in Copetown, he met a local girl, Rosemary Grisdale. They married soon after and settled in the Woodstock area. During the late 60's with a young family at home, Hugh decided to stay on at one of their projects, Conestoga Golf Club located in Waterloo County. In 1972, Hugh and family moved to Port Hope, Ontario where he became the Superintendent and Ice Maker for Dalewood Golf & C.C. Despite a small crew and a tight budget, Hugh quickly gained a reputation for immaculate conditioning. Often Hugh would recruit Rosie to help on the course and with the day to day paper work associated with the job.

In 1978, Hugh was enticed to Westmount where he would spend the next 23 years. During this time, he was able to put his stamp on the course with numerous improvements to the already outstanding Stanley Thompson layout. Some of his work included a complete Master Plan, with the help of Thomas McBroom & Associates, new bunkers, greens, tees, a Master Woodlot Management Program and many other projects. Always on the cutting edge of new turf technology, Hugh pioneered the use of winter covers, deep tine aerification, annual bluegrass seed head suppression using growth regulators, digital shade analysis and naturalized areas on the property. Hugh's opinion was sought on many research projects developed by the GTI, USGA, and independent chemical companies.

One aspect of our business that Hugh valued was the role that regional and national Turf Associations played. He was an active member of the OGSA, CGSA, GCSAA, WOGCSA and OTRF. He served a 10-year stint as a director of the OGSA



### O.G.S.A. Welcomes our newest members

<b>Andrew MacGregor</b>	Class S
<b>Scott Maue</b> Walkerton Golf & CC	Class B
<b>Mitchell Guest</b> Merry Hill Golf Club	Class C
<b>Stefan Schlotthauer</b> Hamilton Golf & CC	Class C
<b>Gordon Trotter</b> Deer Creek Golf & CC	Class C
<b>Adam Muys</b>	Class S
<b>Chad Vibert</b> Mad River Golf Club	Class C
<b>Earth Power Tractors and Equipment</b> Fred Weening	Class E
<b>Eastern Farm Machinery Limited</b> Rob Snyder	Class E
<b>Engage Agro</b> Kameron Fordyie	Class E
<b>Golf &amp; Turf Canada</b> Joe Pillitteri	Class E
<b>HH Holdings</b> Marlene Oilgisser	Class E

culminating with the Presidents Chair in 1985. He was a strong proponent of our Code of Ethics and believed that this was the most important part of our business. A framed copy of the OGSA Code of Ethics hung on his office wall for many years. In 1997 Hugh was awarded the Score Magazine "Superintendent of the Year Award". Under his tutelage he developed over 15 current Class A Superintendents. He often remarked that this was one of his proudest achievements. He was able to develop an "esprit de corps" among his staff that was unparalleled and for those of us lucky enough to work with him through the years, we thank him.

Hugh is survived by his wife, Rosie, children Brian and Kathy, six grandchildren; brothers Dick, Jerry and Bev and one sister Marilyn.

God Speed Hughie, we will miss you.



# Canadian Golf Superintendents Association news

by Robert Burrows  
Rosedale Golf Club



I had the opportunity to attend the Score Awards at Rattlesnake Point Golf Club in May, to watch Mr. Jim Brown of Brightwood Golf Club, NS, receive the Super-

intendent of the year award. Congratulations again Jim.

The CGSA is researching a means of surveying member's educational needs to assess what gaps exist in current offerings as they relate to the "National Occupational Standards". We will also be introducing new member benefits such as the MBNA MasterCard, and enhanced travel packages with our new travel service. I am told that the Fall Field Day on September 17th at Royal Bromont, Quebec, is 65% sold-out, so plan to register soon. I will be hosting a seminar in November, with details to follow.

After 13 years of dedicated service to the CGSA membership, our Executive Director, Mr. Vince Gillis, has decided to retire from full-time employment with the CGSA, effective early in the new year. For those of you who have had the pleasure of working or talking with Vince over the years, I am sure that you will agree that he has undoubtedly left a

lasting and positive impression upon our Association and our profession. Rest assured, that the transition will be smooth and professional. The Board is currently developing a search Committee, and I will keep you posted on his successor. We wish Vince continued happiness and the time to enjoy his success.



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### PRECIPITATION IN ONTARIO REGION

Measured at Pearson International Airport  
Provided by Ministry of the Environment

	YEAR 2001	
	Average	Actual
January		
(rain)	18.5 mm	21.0 mm
(snow)	32.3 cm	10.8 cm
(total)	45.6 mm	31.2 mm
February		
(rain)	20.8 mm	55.6 mm
(snow)	25.9 cm	36.0 cm
(total)	45.5 mm	94.0 mm
March		
(rain)	35.1 mm	8.8 mm
(snow)	19.9 cm	26.4 cm
(total)	56.9 mm	31.4 mm
April		
(rain)	56.0 mm	35.8 mm
(snow)	7.3 cm	0.6 cm
(total)	64.0 mm	36.4 mm
May	66.0 mm	92.2 mm



# Health & safety

## Have you improved safety?

by Doug Johnson,  
SAFETAID and Health and Safety Consulting  
First Aid and Safety Supplies and WHMS Training

Summer is in full swing now and the course is full. This means that you have a full staff complement on the job and operating your equipment. Have you done everything that you need to do to ensure that your workers are working safely? Over the past three years I have written articles concerning various aspects of safety on the golf course. Have you implemented some of these controls?

I have recently been working with a number of local construction companies. Some of these companies have been in business over 60 years, with ownership passing from one generation to the next. Written safety programs and specific written controls were generally not an issue. Then an accident occurred just north of Guelph, killing two people. Now the owner of the construction company is facing fines, which could be well over \$500,000. The owner may lose everything his family has developed over the years. And now his business friends and

associates are scrambling to put safety programs into place. They are doing this so that they can be prepared in the event that there is a catastrophic injury at their workplace. They want to be sure that they have clear standards and solid training programs in place. The likelihood is that once they have put the programs in place and they have communicated the information to their workers, the chance of having a catastrophic injury is minimized. They are also putting these programs into place to ensure that they and their workers understand the need for safe work practices and so that they all understand the consequences of unsafe work habits.

Last month I wrote about putting a health and safety program in place with written policies and procedures. I cannot stress adequately the importance of doing this for yourself and the club you work at. Don't get into a situation where you or the club has to defend yourselves in a court of

law or at the doorway of the family of one of your workers.

Prepare now to have a safety program in place! If you need to corroborate my construction story call me and I will give you the name of the contractor in Fergus and you can ask him if he would do it differently.

### Heads Up!

I have discussed head protection in the past. If you have a moment go to the web site [www.golfdigest.com/lab](http://www.golfdigest.com/lab) or get a copy of the May issue of *Golf Digest* and check out the research that was done regarding the effect of the impact of golf balls on the head. Basically if an individual gets hit on the forehead there is a 15% chance of a "severe brain injury". Getting hit on the temple "actually makes the individual more vulnerable". Just a thought when the discussion on head protection comes up.

Have a great summer!

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Sports Turf Association 14th Annual Field Day May 25, 2001

The Sports Turf Association Welcomes CFL Hall of Famer Henry Waszczuk at the Associations 14th Annual Field Day to be held Wednesday, August 15th, in Waterloo, Ontario. The former Hamilton Tiger Cat kicks off the day as keynote speaker at the Waterloo Recreation Complex.. During his 10 year career, Henry was an All Star at centre seven times and made two Grey Cup appearances. After fifteen years as the co-host of Canadas top outdoor television broadcast and production company, Henry now delivers the tv series Fins and Skins Classic Adventures. Joining Henry on the morning speaker roster is Bob Deline, a safety consultant with the Industrial Accident Prevention Association. In the afternoon, registrants will tour the new RIM (Millennium) Recreation Park and take part in sessions on Seed Selection, Fertilizer, Irrigation and Topdressing. In addition to the educational program, participants are invited to meet with industry suppliers and view their displays and demonstrations. The Sports Turf Association is a professional association committed to the promotion of safe, natural sports turf. For registration and further information contact the STA office at 519.763.9431, email [sta@gti.uoguelph.ca](mailto:sta@gti.uoguelph.ca) Coming Events Calendar Information Wednesday, August 15, 2001 Sports Turf Association 14th Annual Field Day Waterloo Recreation Complex, Waterloo, ON . For more information contact, (Mrs.) Lee Huether, Executive Manager, Sports Turf Association, 328 Victoria Road South, Guelph, ON N1H 6H8 Ph: 519.763.9431 fax:519.766.1704 email: [sta@gti.uoguelph.ca](mailto:sta@gti.uoguelph.ca) [www.gti.uoguelph.ca/sta/](http://www.gti.uoguelph.ca/sta/)

## International Turfgrass Research Conference Ontario Industry Day Tuesday, July 17th, 2001

The scientific papers presented on this day have been chosen specifically to be of interest to golf course superintendents , lawn care operators, sports turf managers and sod growers, with a social event taking place in the evening. Any OGSA member wishing to volunteer to help out with the day's events please contact Rob Witherspoon, GTI Director, at (519) 824-4120 ext. 6886.

## GCSA Golf Ball Showcase

GCSAA is initiating a special golf ball collection drive to visually illustrate the far-reaching scope of the golf course superintendent profession. Members are asked to submit three golf balls bearing the logo of his/her golf facility. GCSAA will assemble and display this impressive collection representing members from across the country and throughout the world. The Golf Ball Showcase will first be on display at 2002 Conference and Show in Orlando and eventually on permanent display at GCSAA Headquarters. Mail the golf balls directly to GCSAA.

## Cyber super

by Mark Prieur, Assistant Superintendent  
Lionhead Golf and Country Club

Everyone is busy, especially this time of the year, and having information available at your fingertips can save you precious time. OGSA has made some of this valuable information available to you on their website. From our website [www.golfsupers.on.ca](http://www.golfsupers.on.ca) there is a menu item on the home page called "Turf Links" which provides you with links to, turfgrass associations, educational facilities and weather information. You may find exactly what you looking for.

Why not bookmark [www.golfsupers.on.ca](http://www.golfsupers.on.ca) as a favourite site, for quick access to Turfgrass Links?

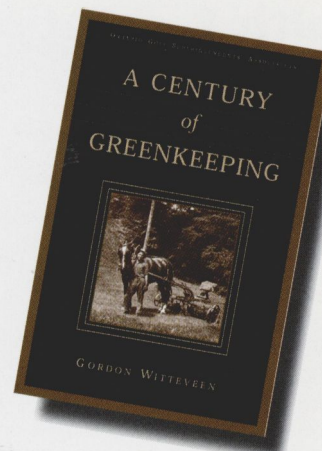


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David Schmelefske



The long awaited publication, *A Century of Greenkeeping* will soon be enroute to the OGSA, and will make its debut at The President's Day Tournament, where copies will be distributed to members. It will be available for members to pick up their copies at the OGSA office at the Guelph Turfgrass Institute, and at the OTRF Fundraising Tournament. Those members who are unable to pick up their copy at the aforementioned locations will be sent their copy by mail.

An order form has been enclosed with *Green Is Beautiful* for those who would like to purchase extra copies for their club or as a gift for anyone interested in the game of golf and its history.

You can also find an order form on our website in the Members Only Section.

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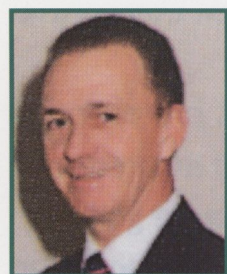
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# The referee

## The hole

by Bob Leggitt  
Rules Chairman, O.G.A.



The "hole" shall be 4-1/4" (108mm) in diameter and at least 4" deep (100mm). If a lining is used, it shall be sunk at least 1 inch (25mm) below the surface of the

putting green unless the nature of the soil makes it impracticable to do so; its outer diameter shall not exceed 4-1/4 inches (108mm).

Picking hole locations. First and foremost hole locations should be selected to make play fair and reasonable. They should not be put in tricky locations.

When selecting hole locations, care should be taken to consider the length of the shot being played to the hole. Such things as wind and other weather elements, condition of the turf and

holding ability of the green are also important considerations.

It is generally recommended that the hole should not be placed closer than five paces from any edge of the putting green. If there is a bunker near the edge of the green then this distance should be increased. Also an area two to three feet in radius around the hole should be as level as possible and of uniform grade. In no case should holes be placed in tricky places, or on sharp slopes where a ball can gather speed. Holes should always be cut on the vertical not plumb with the contour of the putting green. When selecting hole locations try to get a balance of locations with respect to front and back, right and left. Try to avoid the need for too many hooked shots or slices to get near the flagstick.

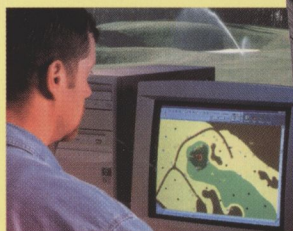
Once the holes have been selected it is up to the players to play the course as they find it. So doing a good job of hole location selection will make the round more enjoyable for all.

What happens if the hole becomes damaged during play? If the damage is caused by a ball mark it may be repaired but if it is not caused by a ball mark and the dimensions of the hole have been altered, the player shall continue play without repairing the hole. If he touches the hole in such circumstances, a breach of Rule 16-1a occurs and the player incurs a two stroke penalty in stroke play or loss of hole in match play.

If the dimensions of the hole have been changed materially, the player should request the Committee to have the hole repaired. If a Committee Member is not readily available, the player may repair the damage, without penalty. If a player repairs a materially damaged hole when a Committee Member is readily available, they incur a penalty for a breach of Rule 16-1a. Penalty same as above.

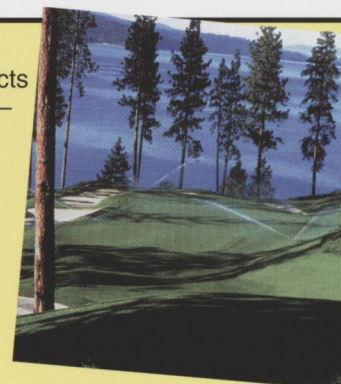


One source: Vanden Bussche Irrigation



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# Spring into summer

by Daisy Moore

June is a period of transition in the garden as it moves from the early show of greenery, spring bulbs and flowering shrubs, to the colour of summer perennials and annuals. When I am designing a garden I plan it so that it proceeds gracefully through the changes of the season.

On golf courses, it is important to keep the formal show gardens at the entrance gates and around the clubhouse looking good all year round and especially in the spring to summer transition when golfers are reacquainting themselves with their game. In many cases, entrance gardens are comprised of a smashing display of spring bulbs which are then removed and replaced by annuals. This is labour intensive, quite expensive and most importantly, the gardens look inadequate before the bulbs bloom, after they finish and for quite a number of weeks until the annuals fill in. This is too long for gardens to be out of service in our relatively short season.

You can plan your gardens to include a diverse mix of plants so that there will always be something there to bridge the gaps as plants go in and out of flower. During the spring transition, ornamental onion (*Allium giganteum*) is one example of a stunning eye catcher in early June. Clusters of these tall, dark purple 'balls on a stick' placed in strategic positions are certain to capture attention. Poppies,

buttercups, peonies or iris are a few other colourful perennials that have a flowering time which overlaps with the end of the spring bulbs and the beginning of the summer perennials.

Plants can be excellent companions to each other when the emergence of one disguises a nearby plant which is going into decline. Lupins are ideally planted amongst tulips because the attractive leaves of the lupin cover the dying foliage of tulips. They then provide a fabulous display of colourful spikes. Poppies and bleeding heart give a great show in early spring but will then die back to ground level. These can be paired with late summer perennials such as asters, bee balm or black-eyed Susan which do the bulk of their growing after the spring growers have had their fill. This way, the plants do not compete with one another.

When planning a perennial garden which will give a season long display, it is important to include plants with attractive foliage. These will provide a framework for the more colourful bloomers and are often beautiful enough themselves. Plants with variegated foliage will add colour and interest during the entire growing season. Ornamental grasses, hosta and ferns are a few examples of plants I choose for their interesting foliage.

I have been working with the gardens at King Valley Golf Course near Aurora

for the past year. We are reducing the dependency on annuals and re-vitalizing the gardens with perennials and permanent plants. We are being more experimental and striving to introduce the right plants for the right conditions so that they become more self sustaining, more natural looking and ultimately more enjoyable. Last fall, we planted small groupings of early spring bulbs such as bluebells, crocus and species tulips. These then gave way to other groups of later flowering tulips. The summer perennials are now poised to take over the spotlight. The gaps created by the spent bulbs are either covered by a neighbouring plant or replaced by annuals. We have chosen a number of self-seeding annuals such as nigella, calendula and cleome and will allow them to seed themselves. These chance combinations are often surprisingly successful. And best of all, since they are self-seeding, they look natural and not neatly in rows. As Ann Lovejoy, a garden author, says, "... some gardens look like a bad party, where everyone is a polite distance from each other." Keep this in mind when you're filling in gaps with annuals.

Daisy hosts 'The Garden Clinic' on Saturday mornings at 9:00am. Tune in to the station nearest you: am900 Hamilton, am980 London or am1350 Oshawa. visit her website at [www.daisymoore.com](http://www.daisymoore.com)

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# Golf course highlight

## Guelph Lakes Golf & Country Club

R.R. #1 Guelph, ON N1H 6H7  
email: jbladon@guelphlakesgolf.ca  
web site: www.guelphlakesgolf.ca

### COURSE PROFILE

WHAT COUNTY IS YOUR CLUB LOCATED IN?

Wellington

IS YOUR CLUB PRIVATE, SEMI PRIVATE, PUBLIC, RESORT, MUNICIPAL?

Public

SIZE OF MEMBERSHIP?

N/A

NUMBER OF ROUNDS?

30,000

TYPICAL OPENING AND CLOSING DATE?

April 15 - November 1

NAME OF SUPERINTENDENT?

John Bladon

HOW MANY YEARS HAVE YOU BEEN A SUPERINTENDENT?

7

ARE YOU CGCS OR MASTER SUPERINTENDENT?

No

LIST OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS (AUDUBON, BOARD SERVICE ETC.)

Audobon in progress

HOW MANY YEARS HAVE YOU BEEN AN O.G.S.A.. MEMBER?

Maybe 5 or 6

HOW MANY YEAR ROUND STAFF?

1

HOW MANY SEASONAL STAFF?

12

HOW MANY MECHANICS AND ASSISTANTS?

1 Part time mechanic and 2 Assistants

HOW MANY GARDENING STAFF?

1

### COURSE STATISTICS

HOW MANY HOLES?

18

WHAT IS THE YARDAGE FROM BACK TEES AND FORWARD TEES?

6391 and 4602

WHAT IS THE SIZE AND LENGTH OF DRIVING RANGE AND RANGE TEE?

290 yards long, deck 15 000 sq ft

HOW MANY BUNKERS?

72

HOW MANY PONDS, AND/OR HOW MANY TIMES DOES WATER COME INTO PLAY?

4 ponds, 13 x into play

WHO WAS THE ORIGINAL ARCHITECT?

David Moote, RF Moote and Associates

WHAT WAS THE YEAR OF ORIGINAL CONSTRUCTION?

1997/98

BY WHOM AND WHEN WAS THE COURSE REMODELLED?

N/A

WHAT MAJOR TOURNAMENTS HELD?

N/A

WHAT IS THE SIZE OF YOUR MAINTENANCE SHOP?

3,000 sq ft

WHAT TYPE OF IRRIGATION SYSTEM?

Rainbird/Par Plus

WHAT IS THE SIZE OF THE GREENS, TEES AND FAIRWAYS?

100,000 sq. ft., 80,000 sq. ft., 20 acres

WHAT IS YOUR PREDOMINANT GRASS?

Greens and tees: Cobra & Providence Creeping Bentgrass

Fairways: Dwarf Kentucky Bluegrass, Perennial Rye &

Creeping Bentgrass

Rough: Kentucky Bluegrass, Perennial Rye, Chewings & Red Fescue

HOW MANY USGA GREENS AND HOW MANY LOAM GREENS?

20 USGA

WHAT IS THE PREDOMINANT SOIL TYPE?

Clay loam



Guelph Lakes Golf and Country Club

WHAT EQUIPMENT DO YOU HAVE IN INVENTORY?

Greens: 4 x Jacobsen PGM Walkers

Tees, Aprons and Approaches: 2 x Toro GR3100 Triplexes

Fairways: 1 x Ransome 250 4WD Fiveplex

Intermediate Rough: 1 National Triplex

Rough: 1 x Ransome AR250 4WD Rotary

Bunkers: 1 x Toro Sand Pro 5000

1 - Cushman GA 60 Aerator

2 - Cushman Turf Trucksters

4 - EZGO Runabout Vehicles

1 - Cushman Topdresser 1500

1 - Smithco 220 Sprayer

1 - Lely Tow Type Broadcast Spreader

1 - Gandy 1006T Tow Type Drop Spreader

1 - Toro Spiker

1 - 600T Bushhog Rotary Mower

1 - Kubota L2900 w Loader

1 - 6' TeeGee Gradermaker (Viking)

Honda String Trimmers

Stihl Blowers and Chainsaws

Bannerman Hover Mowers

### COURSE PROJECTS

WHAT PROJECTS HAVE YOU RECENTLY COMPLETED?

Enlargements to Greens 6 & 7

### LONG RANGE PLANS

WHAT LONG RANGE PLANS FOR RENNOVATION DO YOU HAVE IN THE NEXT FIVE YEARS?

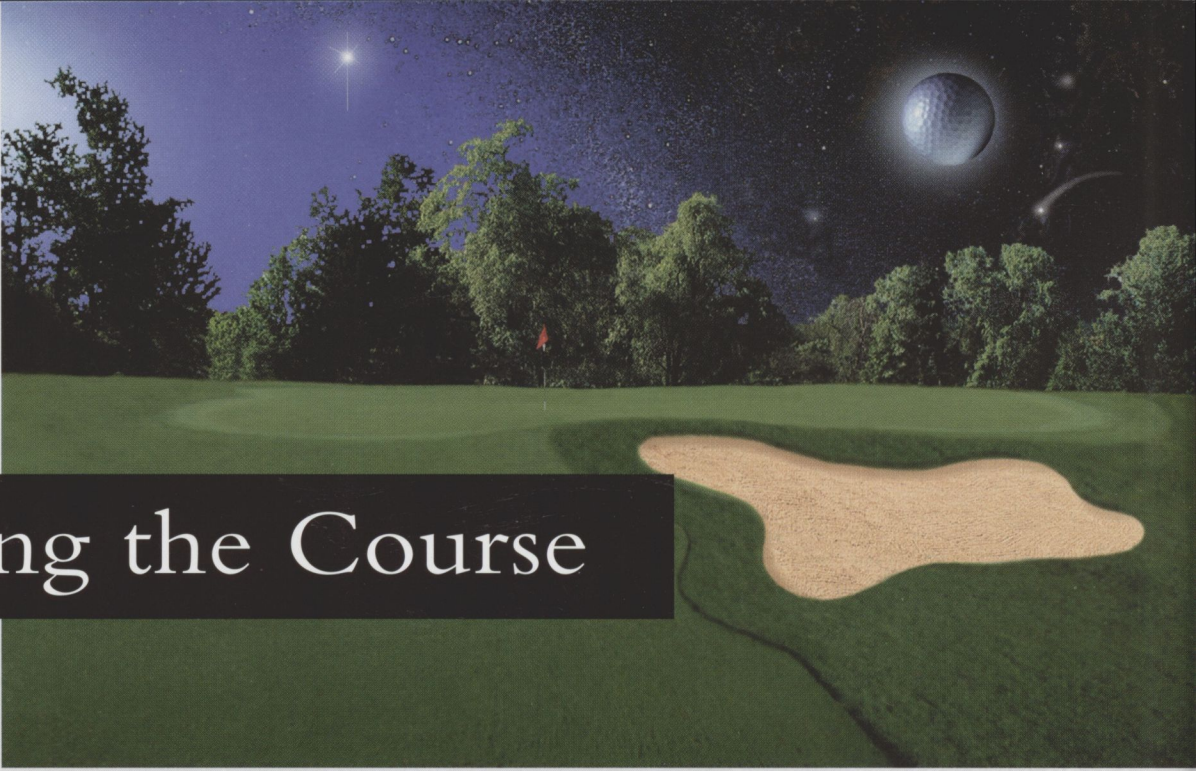
Construction of 10 new tee boxes about the course, renovations to others

### SUCCESS STORIES

DO YOU HAVE ANY SUCCESS STORIES?

We recently introduced four Mute Swans to the property and with their highly territorial nature, they have kept the geese from settling on the property. Standoffs are regularly witnessed between the two bird types and to date, the geese have backed down every time.





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# Spring field day

by Dean Baker & Angelo Capannelli

The O.G.S.A. and Guelph Turfgrass Institute were once again happy to host the second annual revised Spring Field Day, and judging from the attendance this year, interest is building.

The day started out rather gloomy with rain in the early morning, but the sun eventually found its way out by the 1:00 p.m. tee time at Guelph Lakes. G.T.I.'s Norm McCollum, anticipating bad weather had his crew and volunteers work the weekend in preparation for the Monday field day... our thanks to Norm and his staff for setting up the day.

Distributors and Equipment Suppliers did not let the weather hamper their attendance. Over 20 distributors from across Ontario joined in on the morning session. G.T.I. Director, Rob Witherspoon, along with his research staff welcomed all O.G.S.A. Members. Rob was excited to announce the appointment of Dr. Julie Dionne, as our new University of Guelph faculty for turf research. Julie will be starting with the University in August of this year. Dr. Tom Hsiang, from the University of Guelph was

on hand to bring us up-to-date on his snow mould trials. Snow mould was a hot topic this year, with many courses feeling the damage of this disease, coming out of winter. Pam Charbonneau, from O.M.A.F.R.A. was also on hand, fielding turf related questions for the upcoming season. Pam and a committee of local industry people are busy preparing to host delegates from around the world in the 4 year annual International Turf Research Conference, to be held in Toronto, July 15th to 21st. Toronto is the only city to host this conference twice. We wish Pam, and the organizing committee, all the best.

The increasing attendance of the Spring Field Day by Superintendents, Assistants and other industry people is a strong example of the continuing support in the turf industry. The commitment, given by the University of Guelph, with their newly appointed turf research position indicates the growing need the industry requires for the future. Field days like this help industry people better understand future research in turf, but also help guide institutions, like the University of Guelph, to better understand

the need of the industry. We cannot grow and be successful without each other.

The O.G.S.A. would like to thank all the participants for attending. We would especially like to thank Hutcheson Sand and Mixes for providing the morning refreshments. We also take this opportunity to congratulate Dr. Dionne on her new appointment, and extend our good wishes and our support for her future endeavours at the University of Guelph and the Guelph Turfgrass Institute.

Following the morning festivities, OGSA members and guests gathered at the Guelph Lakes Golf and Country Club for the golf portion of the the Field Day. Our host was superintendent and OGSA member, John Bladon. With the weather cooperating and the golf course looking superb, we were in store for a wonderful day of fellowship and comaraderie; not to mention, all the golf course superintendents would be competing for the coveted Clayton Switzer Trophy, to be awarded to the low gross superintendent.

continued on page 14



Clayton Switzer and David Svab. Observe the new Clayton Switzer Trophy. The old trophy is in the background.



Dean Baker presenting plaque to Host Superintendent of Guelph Lakes Golf & Country Club, John Bladon.



We were greeted by our OGSA golf and meeting directors, Dean Baker and Paul Scenna, who presented us with refreshment and lunch tickets, and advised us who our playing partners would be for the day. Meanwhile, the courteous staff at Guelph Lakes took our golf bags and made sure they were saddled up with our respective playing partners in preparation of the 1:00 p.m. shotgun start. What a day it was going to be!

Guelph Lakes Golf & Country Club is a challenging 18 hole course that was designed by Dave Moote. The spirit of the course really is in the way the holes were designed around the many aesthetically pleasing environmentally sensitive areas. It would have to be a round of accuracy and

patience in order for any one to capture the Clay Switzer Trophy. According to John Bladon, the greens were putting magnificently and it was clear that many low rounds would be fired on this day. Everyone was a winner this day, but the prizes went to:

**Superintendent Low Gross**

1st Dave Swab 76

2nd Chris Dew 76

**Superintendent Low Net**

1st Ken Wright 65

2nd Dave DeCorso 70

**Assistant Low Gross**

1st Tom Brain 79

**Distributor Low Gross**

1st Sean Lavin 71

With research being the theme of the day, part of the festivities included an

opportunity for the golfers to cast a fishing line into the pond at the 6th hole. No, not to fish for golf balls that manage to fly away on errant shots, but to actually cast a line for a rainbow trout. If you were fortunate enough to catch one of these fish, your name was entered into a draw for a Wilson golf bag, donated by Wilson Sports. The winner of the fishing competition and recipient of the golf bag, was Jeff Germon, General Manager of St. Thomas Golf & Country Club. This competition NETTED \$300.00 to go towards turf research.

We would be remiss not to mention some of the more notable participants of the day, which included, Clay Switzer, Pam Charbonneau, Terry Yamada, Rob Witherspoon and Norm McCollum.

*OGSA would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who worked hard to make this day a success. It was truly a team effort. Our special thanks goes to:*

**Guelph Lakes Golf & Country Club** and **John Bladon** for hosting the 2001 Field Day Tournament.

Thanks to the generosity of **Guelph Lakes** and the diligent efforts of **Jason Ireton** and **Karen Hurson** from **Plant Products**, each hole flew an attractive yellow flag sporting the OGSA logo and Spring Field Day 2001.

**Doug Hubble**, from **Turf Care** provided each participant with an attractive thermo mug with the OGSA logo on it.

**John Deere Co** and **Podolinsky Turf Equipment** donated a Walk Behind Mower for prize "Closest to the Hole on #17."

**Vanden Bussche Irrigation** donated a BBQ for prize "Closest to the Hole on #7"

**Hutcheson Sand & Mixes** sponsored the morning refreshments at the GTI.

**Wilson Sports** donated a golf bag to the winner of the fishing competition.









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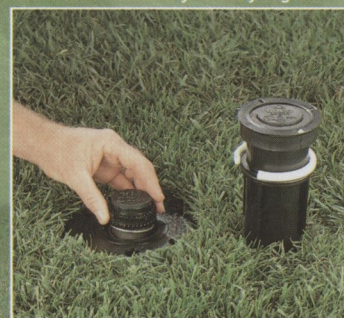
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# Border city round up

by Paul Scenna

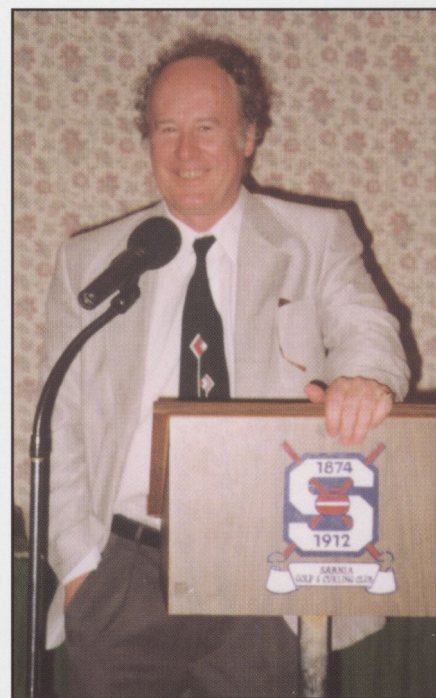
A gorgeous, gusty day at Sarnia Golf and Curling Club was the site for this spring's Border City Challenge.

Host Superintendent Paul Brown and his staff are to be congratulated for their hard work in preparing the course for this day. His members should be proud of the work they are doing.



Sarnia Golf & Country Club

We had a great turnout of 96 players from both Michigan and Ontario. The competition was close and a tie of the top four low gross scores was broken using retrogression as the Americans edged us out. The winning scores were Chris Andrejicka 78, Jay Delcamp 78, Fritz McMullen 80 and Mike Blasky 80, for a total of 316. Canadian low scores were Thom Charters 77, Kelly Barnett 79, Bob Harwood 80, and Paul Scenna 80, for a total of 316. Low net winners from Michigan were Doug Johanningsmeirr and Canadian, Thom McLean. Closest to the hole on #7 was John Taylor, and on #12 was Mike Blasky. Long Drive winner was Jerry Richard.



Dr. Joe Vargas

Engineers,  
Hydrogeologists,  
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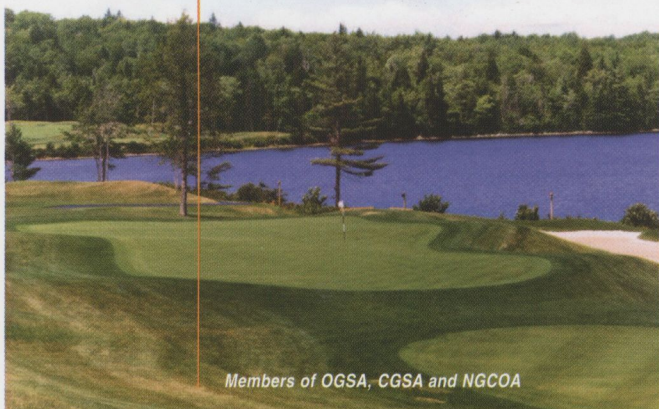
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Members of OGSA, CGSA and NCGOA



Paul Brown, Host Superintendent, was presented a plaque by OGSA golf event director Paul Scenna.



Winning U.S. Team





# An Assessment of Pesticide Use in the Ontario Golf Course Industry 2000

## Summary of Ontario Region Program 256GC

Prepared for O.G.S.A. by:  
Ontario Compliance and Regional Operations  
Harold Colins

### BACKGROUND

This survey was undertaken to assess pesticide use by the golf course industry in Ontario.

The last survey of pesticide use on golf courses was conducted in 1993/94. In recent years at least two major Ontario municipalities (Toronto and London) have taken steps to reduce pesticide use on their municipally-owned courses. It is anticipated that others will follow the same pattern. Golf courses are being encouraged to participate in structured environmental plans such as that administered by GreenLinks Eco-Efficiency Services. This Ottawa company has developed an environmental evaluation, recognition and rating service

for golf courses that takes into account all aspects of operation and management. Environment Canada is also a partner in this national project. Golf courses can also participate in the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program of Canada which promotes, through certification, Integrated Pest Management techniques and overall environmental improvement. The Royal Canadian Golf Association supports these initiatives.

Golf courses, as a group, are considered major users of control products on a kg/ha basis. Because many golf courses are located in urban areas and have ponds or streams as an integral part of their functional landscape care must be taken during mixing or application to reduce the potential for

contaminations of water sources or for off-target chemical trespass or bystander exposure. With more emphasis being placed on use reduction of "cosmetic" pesticides, pesticide-free zones and natural areas there is a need to acquire current information on pesticide use in the golf course industry.

### OBJECTIVES

1. To generate, through the vehicle of a questionnaire / inspection format, detailed and timely information on pesticide use in the Ontario golf course industry.

**continued on page 20**



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2. To provide this industry with relevant information concerning the role of PMRA.
3. To collect data on organophosphate and carbamate use for product re-evaluation.
4. To gain an understanding of the needs and concerns of the golf course industry.

## PROGRAM DELIVERY / METHODS

In setting up the questionnaire structure and content for this project, a significant effort was made to consult with the Guelph Turfgrass Institute, OMAFRA, Ontario Ministry of the Environment, and the Ontario Golf Superintendents' Association.

This province-wide survey was conducted during the summer of 2000. Twenty-four (24) randomly selected golf courses were contacted and their superintendents interviewed onsite by PMRA/CFIA staff. This sample size represented approximately 9% of the 265 member courses in Ontario. The first three pages of the questionnaire were included in a fax with the suggestion that they be completed prior to the arranged site visit. During the visit additional subjective-type questions were posed. As well, all pesticides currently in storage were inventoried and relevant information regarding their use patterns was documented. Literature outlining the role of PMRA was also provided.

## CONCLUSIONS

- One of the major objectives of this survey was to generate, through the vehicle of a questionnaire/ inspection format, detailed and timely information on pesticide use in the Ontario golf course industry.

In this assessment of pesticide use by the golf course industry, several key areas stood out. All golf courses were involved in integrated pest management programs that, over the last three years had resulted in an average pesticide use reduction of 25% for 15 of the 23 courses that took part in this survey. The other 8 courses did not have a use increase/decrease during that period. Inherent in this IPM approach had been the conscious attempt to incorporate such critical elements as regular scouting by trained personnel for insects and diseases, expert pest identification resources, attempt to manipulate the soil and turf conditions to put pathogens under

stress and the application of pesticides only when critical disease/insect thresholds had been reached.

There has been an increase in the use of sprayer technology that promotes reduced spray drift. Such innovations as wind foils, spray skirts and air induction nozzles (one course only) were being used by some of the courses surveyed. The low-profile, "out of sight", use of control products coupled with the transparency of use ("right to know") promoted by the legal requirements for posting appear to have contributed to a low level of complaints and inquiries by clients or adjacent parties concerning pesticide applications. Pesticide storage standards, based on this survey, were at an acceptable level. Several golf courses had "old product" that they wished to dispose of. An "Obsolete Pesticide Collection & Disposal Program" had been initiated through CPI/OMAFRA/Environment Canada for Nov. 1 to 3 in 2000 and 2001. This information was passed on to the Ontario Golf Superintendent's Association and was subsequently published in their summer 2000 newsletter.

Most of the superintendents (16 of 23) expressed general satisfaction with currently available control products. However they voiced a need for alternate control products for one of the persistent pest problems, namely, dollar spot. Recently, both Heritage (azoxystrobin) and Eagle (myclobutanil) have been registered for control of this fungal disease.

- Another survey objective was to provide this industry with relevant information concerning the role of PMRA.

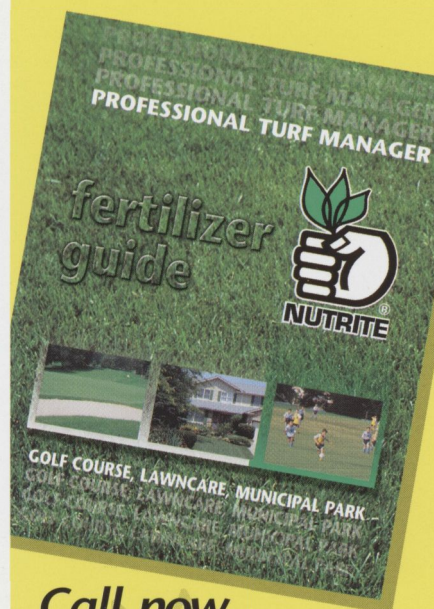
This survey indicated a limited knowledge of PMRA with only approximately half of those golf courses surveyed being familiar with PMRA functions and programs.

- A stated survey objective was to collect data on organophosphate and carbamate use.

In this regard it should be noted that 18 of the 23 "non-organic" courses applied diazinon, 9 used chlorpyrifos (refer to the recently reorganized PMRA web site for reevaluation documents on these two actives <http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/pmra-arla/> - also see Healthy Lawns initiative on the same site) and 10 sprayed carbaryl. Merit (imidachloprid), a new non-OPI/carbamate insecticide alternative was applied on 14 golf courses during the survey season. This new product was, however, used under significant label restrictions regarding target pests and number of applications. Concerns relating to imidachloprid included resistance buildup and the availability of alternative control products.

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## Moving to the States

by Steve Auckland

### The Club at PGA West

I ran into Mark Schneider at the GCSAA National Show in Dallas and he asked me if I could put an article together on some of the differences on working in the United States from Canada. I said "sure not a problem", four weeks later and with plenty of thought, here is my attempt.

I need to clarify that this is my personal list attributed from moving from the Toronto area to the desert area of Palm Springs, California 150 km east of Los Angeles.

The biggest change for me was the opportunities that the U.S. offered vs. Canada. The Coachella Valley, where Palm Springs is found, is only 33 km long and roughly 10 km wide with a full time population of 280,000 and has over 100 golf courses. PGA West, where I am presently employed, owns nine courses within 7 km.

The golf season is in full swing from November to April. Summer vacations are the way of life here as temperatures

can reach 40°C July-September. Annual rainfall on average is 7.5 cm. Winter annuals are peonies, pansies and snapdragons. We have had a bad winter this year with about 30 days of frost. Most frost days occur between the Skins Game and Valentines Day, (November - February). Delays are usually until about 8:30. Our last tee time to complete 18 holes is about 12:30 in the winter. The sun goes behind the mountains at 4:00 and sets at 5:30ish. Maintenance crews are 100% Hispanic and run about 30 people per 18 holes. In the summer we start at 5 a.m. and finish at 1:00 p.m. All our staff is full time as we really do not have any off-season. Grass species are all Bermuda with several courses having Bentgrass Greens. In September / October, we shut the courses to overseed with ryegrass. This is so the Snowbirds have green grass to play on in the winter instead of dormant Bermuda. The overseeding process takes roughly 28 days from scalping the Bermuda to seeding and getting the ryegrass up and ready to

play. Essentially this is growing in a golf course once a year. During this time all equipment is torn down and rebuilt. Winter golf starts from \$40 to \$230. Summer golf from \$20 with a six pack of beer to \$90. Operating budgets of \$1.3 million U.S. are common. Pesticides are limited but not quite to the extent that they are in Canada. A multitude of golf and tennis events are televised yearly in the area, including Bob Hope Chrysler Classic, The Skins Game, The Dinah Shore and the Nabisco Tennis.

The medical system here is something that takes getting used to. I still haven't figured it out. Trust me, Canada has a superior medical system. There is definitely no shortage of fast food establishments here as they seem to be on every corner. No Tim Horton donuts though, but coffee is not the order of the day when its 33°C at 4 a.m. in the summer. Last but not least, sports coverage is just not the same without wondering what the Leafs are doing.

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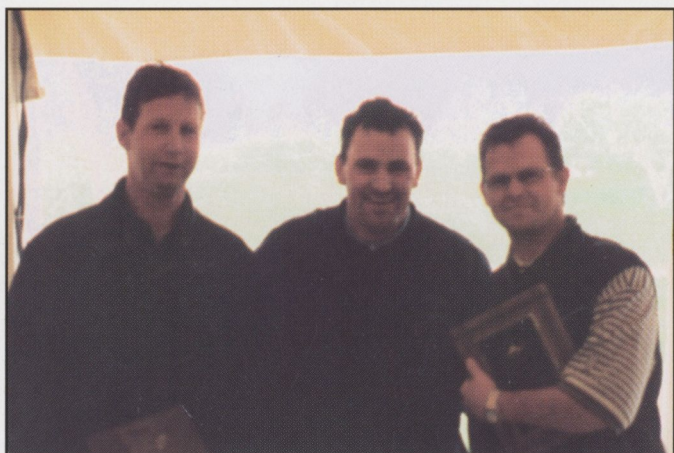


# Pro / Super challenge

by Dean Baker

Angus Glen Golf Club, in Markham, Ontario proved to be an excellent Challenge for this year's Pro / Super golf event. Under the watchful eye of head agronomist Ernie Amsler, Doug Taylor rose to the occasion with a beautiful eighteen holes of golf.

This year we had a record three teams tied at 65. Kelly Barnett, Superintendent of Fox Glen Golf Club and his head professional, Kevin Corriveau eventually were crowned the winners to have their photo taken with the newly sculpted, Bill Bowen trophy. Sculptor of this Soapstone carving, Bill Fach from York Downs Golf & Country Club was on hand for the presentation. Trevor Clapperton, Superintendent of Dalewood Golf & Curling Club, and his head pro, Jamie Carter, graciously took second place. John Parker from Trafalgar Golf Club, with his pro, Fraser McIntyre, rounded off the top winners.



**Our Hosts** – Superintendent Doug Taylor & Golf Pro Tim Green with OGSA Director, Dean Baker

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**1st Place Winners** – Kelly Barnett & Kevin Corriveau, Fox Glen Golf Club



**2nd Place Winners** – Trevor Clapperton & Jamie Carter, Dalewood Golf & Curling Club



**3rd Place Winners** – John Parker & Fraser McIntyre, Trafalgar Golf Club



Special thanks go out to Tim Green, Head Professional, and Kevin Thistle, Director of Golf, and all the Angus Glen staff, who made our day so enjoyable. Best of luck to Angus Glen in their opening of their north course, a brand new clubhouse, and of course...the 2002 Bell Canadian Open. See you again in August for the O.T.R.F. Fundraiser Golf Tournament, and the L.P.G.A. Golf Event.



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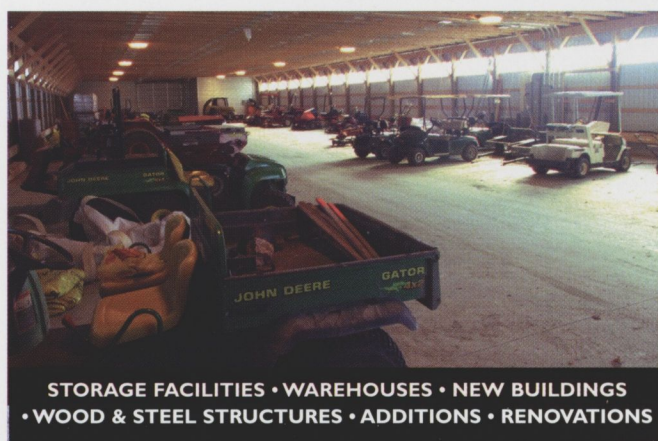
Bill Fach, Superintendent, York Downs Golf & Country Club and sculptor of the Bill Bowen Trophy.



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# Turf or consequences

by Doug Breen, Superintendent  
Conestoga Golf Course

People say that a change is as good as a rest. They welcome change as a harbinger of new adventures and experiences to come. I resist change. I wouldn't even change clothes if I could avoid it. I might even fear change, but I'm not about to spend a couple of grand on therapy to find out. Besides, I wouldn't be willing to alter my weekly routine to include a shrink.

I've ordered exactly the same thing every time I've gone to McDonald's since 1981. A quarter pounder with cheese combo, large size, with a Coke – got to have that pail of Coke. Same goes for Burger King, Wendy's, Tim Horton's, or anywhere else. All attempts at the new things like McPizza have been a bitter disappointment. I've eaten the same six pizza toppings since I was ten.

My wife, on the other hand, loves change. She changes something everyday. I've often come home from work to find that

she's torn up the carpet or ripped down the wallpaper or chucked my thinking couch out onto the front yard because she wanted

a change. I figure it's only a matter of time 'til I come home and there's a For Sale sign on the lawn. Lucky for me I have enough inconsistencies in my personality that she keeps me.

But sometimes change is thrust upon us, and this spring I changed golf courses. Now, this is something we've all done before, it's the nature of the business, but my instincts tend to worry that any change will be as successful as the "new Coke" or the equally repulsive "Pepsi Clear".

My first week was not encouraging. Not only did I constantly look like an idiot because I didn't know where anything was kept, but in that first week we had a thunderstorm, followed by a flood, followed by a snowstorm. It was like the seven signs of the apocalypse. I had just finished saying, "nothing left but the war and the pestilence" when fusarium broke out and I got a kidney stone. I'm actually writing this in a bed in Guelph General Hospital. As for war, it seems unlikely that St. Jacobs could master an army and attack us but I've got the lads on battle stations just to be safe.

The one positive thing that came out of this was that while the course was a scenic lake, the guy who does the local farm reports came and interviewed me for the six o'clock news, which means that for the first time ever my mother thinks that I have a real job, since she saw me on the T.V.

Well, I've got to go. The nurse is here to draw blood or shoot dye where dye ought not to be for some x-rays or something. Please call me in a few weeks once I get settled – wait, never mind – I fixed the phones in the shop last week and now I can't get them to receive calls. Maybe I shouldn't have changed them.



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# Why are so many courses going to the dogs?

by Mark Piccolo  
Galt Country Club

Golf courses all over southern Ontario seem to be "going to the dogs" and for good reason too. They are reclaiming their turf back from the ever-increasing invasion of Canada Geese. Going to dogs as a means of control for these properties has meant one thing, excellent results through the significant reduction in numbers of geese.

Add to that the fact that each course Superintendent and his greens staff do not have to do a thing, it's all done for them through the brilliant and effective service of Collie Goose Control. Owner Jordan Gooderham and his staff of seven highly trained Border Collies represent the solution many courses have been looking for; control of the geese without the burden of private dog ownership.

"For the courses that have geese problems, but prefer not to own a dog, the service works very well. It has always been said that if you want control of geese, own a trained dog and enjoy the results, or suffer with goose problems and alternative gimmicks to try and rid them," says Jordan. This, however, is no longer the case with Collie Goose Control, as many courses are now getting the control they have always wanted, without ownership of a working dog.

The dogs of Collie Goose Control are all highly trained and extremely proficient in goose removal. Golf courses that use this service benefit in the fact that multiple dogs work together to achieve very fast results on even the most stubborn of geese. Trained to sit patiently on a cart, they are content to wait with anticipation for when they are called into action against the birds.

Golf course members are delighted with the dogs, the concept, and the results. For many of these golfers, the highlight of their game is greeting the dogs and getting the opportunity to watch them in action. Definite "crowd pleasers", these dogs love their work and the attention they receive at each new property.



There is still, however, the option of owning a trained working dog through Collie Goose Control. For the right individual, it is a good choice, allowing control of geese at all times of the day, every day, year round. Jordan's dogs are even more valuable because they have been raised as pups specifically for this work and are taught the manners necessary for life on a golf course. By the time they are just a few months old they are already at home amongst the machinery, play, and public that make up the day-to-day life on a golf course.

Jordan and his dogs enjoy what they do and are good at it. They work hard in their various training routines and for the properties they serve, and it shows. For more information or to contact Jordan phone (519) 442-7363 or visit them on the web at [www.colliegoosecontrol.cjb.net](http://www.colliegoosecontrol.cjb.net)



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# Looking back

## Twenty-five years ago today

by Barry Endicott,  
Nobleton Lakes Golf Club

In 1976, the Directors of the OGSA were as follows: **Paul Dermott** (president), **Al Beeney** (vice president), **Carl Bennet** (secretary.), **John Hutchinson** (treasurer.), **David Gourlay**, **Paul Dodson**, **Hugh Kirkpatrick**, **Whitey Jones**, **Stew Mills**, **Paul Scenna** and **Bob Heron**, (editor of *Green is Beautiful*).

New members: **Graham Shouldice**, Highland Golf Club; **Doug Hoskins**, Summit Golf Club; **John Ingram**, Glenview Golf Club; **Graydon Rogers**, Westers Trent Golf Club; **Craig Wilton**, Greenhills Country Club; **Gerald Gitzel**, Rain Tech Irrigation Services; **David Jackson**, Southbrook Golf Club.

**Sid Witteveen** has left Glen Abbey as Assistant and is joining **Ken Wright** at Northwood Golf Club. **Cam Cairncross** started a new position with the Sault Ste. Marie Parks Department, **Ted Charman** has started at the National Golf Club and **Doug Hoskins** has moved to Summit Golf Club.

The Sixth Annual Management Symposium was held at Aurora Highlands Golf Club, hosted by **Whitey Jones** and chaired by **Keith Nisbet** and **Bill Glashan**. Guest speaker was **Murray Tucker**, Golf Director from the Board of Trade Country Club.

Meetings were held at Bayview Golf Club, **Ed Ortleib**; North Halton Golf & Country Club, **Al Beeney**; Beach Grove Golf Club (via "Pelino Express"), **Ed Henderson**; Board of Trade Country Club, **Gord Witteveen**; and Maple Downs Golf Club, **Art Dodson**.

The C.G.S.A. Conference was held in Toronto at the Inn on the Park. There was a spring dance at Islington Golf Club. The Galt Country Club hosted the Galt Field Day and the President, Green Chairman, Superintendent Tournament was at St. Georges Golf Club, hosted by **Bill Hynd**. The Pro Superintendent Tournament was held at North Halton

Golf & Country Club, hosted by **Al Beeney** and the Christmas Dance was held at Markland Wood Country Club. The McClumpha Memorial Tournament was held at St. Thomas Golf Club. The Canadian Open was held at Essex Golf & Country Club.

On March 26th, a curling meeting was held at North Halton Golf & Country Club, hosted by **Al Beeney**. The winning team was made up of **Al Beeney**, **Carl Bennet**, **Paul White** and **Bill Robinson**. **Larry Sherk** from Sheridan Nurseries gave an interesting slide presentation.

**John Bennet** moved from Cedar Brae Golf & Country Club to London Hunt Club, and **Bruce Thrasher**, assistant to **Paul Dodson** at Mississauga Golf Club, moved to Cedar Brae Golf & Country Club. **Ted Tom** moved from Islington Golf Club to Uplands Golf Club as Superintendent.

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