

February 2003

Green is Beautiful

The Official Publication of Ontario Golf Superintendents' Association

Ontario Turf Symposium 2003

Communicate through website

Hiring staff

CANADA POST PUBLICATIONS MAIL
PUBLICATIONS AGREEMENT No. 40027105

Postmaster: Please return undeliverable copies to
The OGSA, 328 Victoria Rd. S., Guelph, ON N1H 6H8

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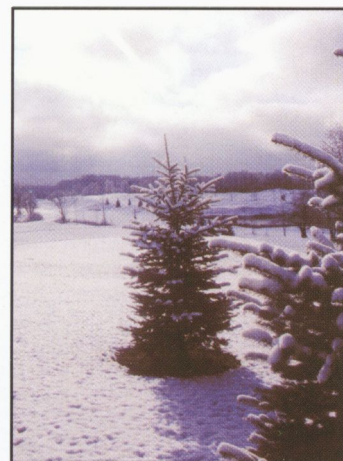
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Green is Beautiful

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

We start the New Year saying goodbye to John Gravett, whom after several years of serving with the OGSA, hands his role of past president on to Jim Flett. John's on going role in government relations, in support of our profession, has benefited us all and no doubt, he will be called upon for advice. Jim gets to take a bit of a breather after guiding the OGSA through another exciting and successful year. Jim has been instrumental in the development of the website and I wish to thank him for his efforts over the past year.

I would like to welcome Chris Andrejicka from the Essex Golf and Country Club and John Bladon from the Guelph Lakes Golf and Country Club to the Board of Directors.

This is truly an exciting time to be involved with the OGSA. The excitement is building towards the inaugural 2004 Golf Course Management and Trade Show. We are close to selecting a site and every effort is being made to provide you with a conference that encompasses everything our profession has become.

The OGSA endorses IPM accreditation. Jeff Stauffer has been working diligently, with the IPM council, developing the program and the standardized record-keeping manual. This will be sent to, all OGSA class A, AA active and B members, in the near future. Full details of the accreditation program will be enclosed at that time. Discussions for the development of Nutrient Management Regulations are underway. Superintendents must be prepared to be accountable for what is applied to the soil and the OGSA will be proactive in it's development.

As our membership growth continues, the office has expanded and now utilizes two offices at the GTI. Dorothy has surrounded herself with a team able to meet all our challenges, and is the foundation behind our success.

The OGSA and its members is a well-respected association within the Province, and the directors are committed to a proactive approach with Government Regulatory Issues. It will be a pleasure to work with these gentlemen over the next year and continue the success and growth.



by Mark Piccolo
Galt Country Club



ONTARIO GOLF SUPERINTENDENTS' ASSOCIATION

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Guelph, ON N1H 6H8

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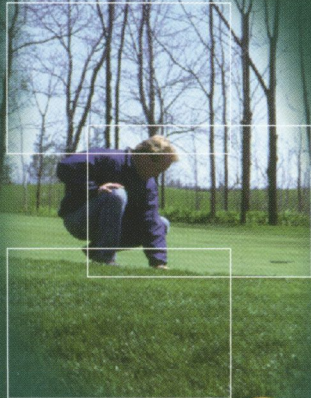
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Green is Beautiful 2003

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

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Wing Leung Class B
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Terence Mansell Class F
DiamondBack Golf Club

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Ed Robinson Class C
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Lakeview Golf Course

Jennifer Van Baaren Class S
Lambton College

Tim Warne Class S
Caledon Woods Golf Club

John Deere Landscape Ltd.
Gillian Glazer Class E



PRECIPITATION IN ONTARIO REGION

Measured at Pearson International Airport
Provided by Ministry of the Environment

	YEAR 2002	
	Average	Actual
January		
(rain)	18.5 mm	14.6 mm
(snow)	32.3 cm	31.4 cm
(total)	45.6 mm	46.2 mm
February		
(rain)	20.8 mm	29.6 mm
(snow)	25.9 cm	7.0 cm
(total)	45.5 mm	38.4 mm
March		
(rain)	35.1 mm	44.1 mm
(snow)	19.9 cm	17.6 cm
(total)	56.9 mm	61.3 mm
April		
(rain)	56.0 mm	88.8 mm
(snow)	7.3 cm	12.2 cm
(total)	64.0 mm	103.3 mm
May		
(rain)	65.8 mm	80.7 mm
(snow)	0.1 cm	0.0 cm
(total)	65.9 cm	80.7 cm
June		
(rain)	68.9 mm	59.6 mm
July		
(rain)	76.6 mm	59.0 mm
August		
(rain)	84.2 mm	11.6 mm
September		
(rain)	74.2 mm	59.2 mm
October		
(rain)	62.0 mm	43.0 mm
(snow)	1.1 cm	0.0 cm
November		
(rain)	64.3 mm	42.2 mm
(snow)	6.4 cm	30.8 cm
(total)	70.3 mm	67.2 mm
December		
(rain)	38.3 mm	14.2 mm
(snow)	31.1 cm	19.5 cm
(total)	65.5 mm	32.5 mm



by Mark Prieur,
Assistant Supt.
Markland Wood CC

Attention Mechanics:

Looking for parts for your Toro equipment and don't know what part or part number you need? Go online to www.toro.com click on the Golf Course Management section and then click on Toro Master Partsviewer. Here you can search for parts (by model number) for each piece of machinery you want to service/repair. Partsviewer is a program built right in the website

that enables you to view assembly drawings and product features from your computer in an easy to use and printable format. After entering the model and serial number (to identify the year), the program prompts you to choose from a comprehensive list of each assembly unit on the machine. From hydraulic drive motor assemblies to electrical schematics it is all here in a huge database.

There is even a parts list in a separate window that you can click on if you are unsure what the item is and Partsviewer will highlight the chosen part in the diagram (and vice versa). These drawings are sharp in contrast, one can pan left or right zoom in or out. This program is easy to use but if you run into trouble there is also a help

section as well. Bonus features: no pop-ups or email registration required (no spam getting emailed to you in the future).

The second site this month is www.rittenhouse.ca. Rittenhouse, well known for its horticultural products and spraying equipment, has put together a fantastic site to find and purchase it's specialty items on-line. Rittenhouse.ca has excellent pictures of all 11,000 of it's products and information pages such as calibrating spray equipment and how to clean out spray tanks properly, are located here as well. Once you find what you want to purchase just click on it, and from there it goes into a virtual shopping cart and when you are ready to purchase, just click the checkout button. Account information must be set up and an account ID and Password would be issued for the purchasing. The impressive feature is that the site is linked with its inventory (to see if they are in stock or not) and the items you purchased will be shipped however you want (express or regular). The down side to any virtual shopping is that there is no one to bargain with concerning volume-pricing etc. This site is still worth the visit.

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Health & safety

NOISE AND HEARING TESTS

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

I know most of you are taking care to ensure that noise protection is available for all your workers.

I trust that you have established rules for the use of hearing protection.

I am sure that you understand the effect noise can have on your workers and I expect that a good number of you give your workers some choice as to the type of hearing protection that you make available.

When hearing protection is deemed necessary workers no longer have a choice about wearing it.

- Have you also taken the time to ensure that the hearing protection that you are purchasing is doing its job?
- Have you ever taken the time to check the noise levels in and around your workplace?
- Do you know how much noise is generated by the equipment you are using?

- Have you established rules for the wearing of hearing protection?
- Do you know which workers have some form of hearing loss?

Many employers today are ensuring that they are meeting the legislative standards by having hearing tests completed on their workers. This gives the worker and the employer base line information on the status of the workers' hearing when they start to work for you or as they continue to work with you. This is not a process to deny workers the right to work. It is a process that ensures that your club protects the workers and the club from future hearing loss or claims.

If you have a baseline hearing assessment and you complete ongoing hearing tests you will be in a position to know if there is a change in the workers' hearing patterns.

This is an advantage to you and to the workers. It gives you an early indication of any potential issues.

If you do find that noise is an issue in your workplace it gives you the opportunity to investigate using a quieter work process or of enhancing the hearing protection that is available. It may also indicate to you that there may be an issue with the way that hearing protection is being worn. Many workers do not wear hearing protection properly. Some have never been instructed in its use and or maintenance.

Ensure that you are doing everything reasonable by ensuring that you have taken the necessary steps to eliminate potential hearing loss.

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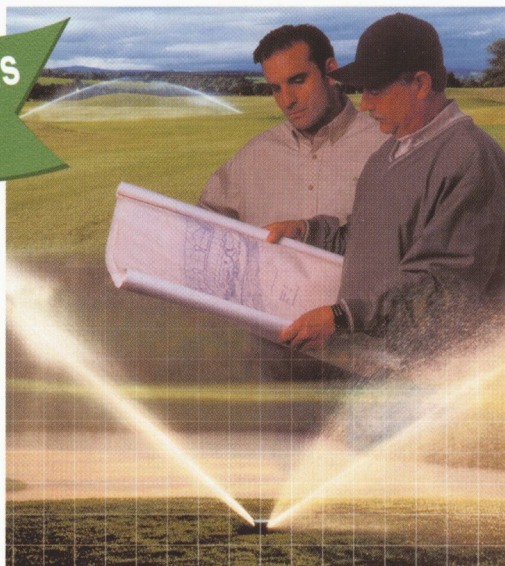
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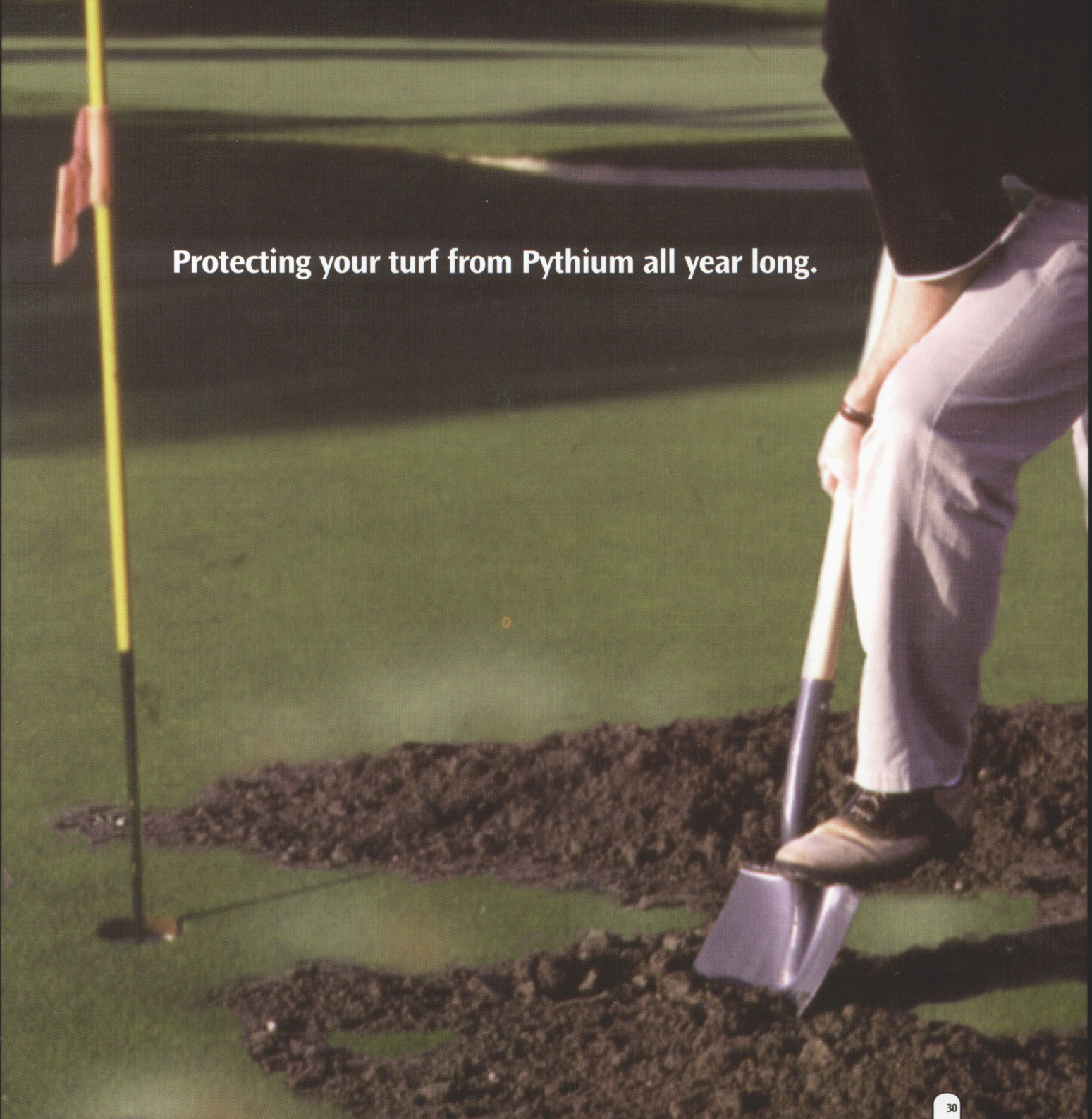
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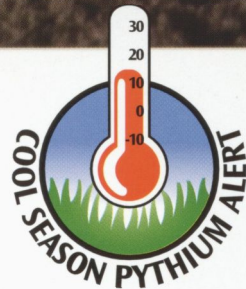
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Mechanic's corner

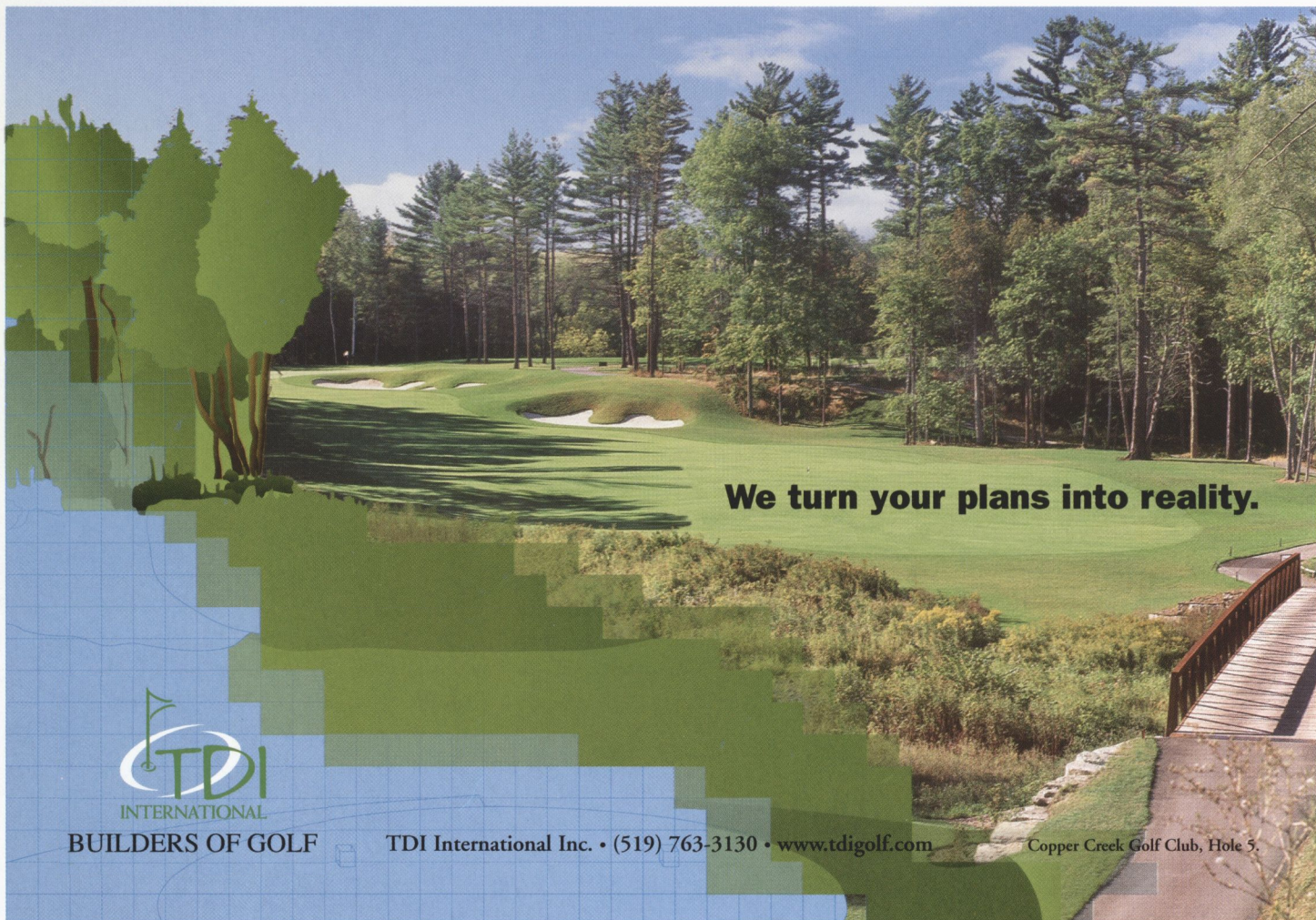
By Larry A. Murray, President G.E.T.A.O.
Equipment Manager, Pheasant Run Golf Course

We have entered another year with hopes and expectations to make things better. If you managed to keep a list of problems and repairs of the year, why not take a few minutes now to figure out if there was some way of improving it. More often than not, the equipment fails when there is an urgency to be in operation. The return of the failure will evidently haunt you. Record keeping is becoming an important requirement by most employers. Records also provide key information in lawsuit cases involving injuries from the equipment we maintain. I suggest keeping records of safety-related items such as employee training on equipment, and recommendations on equipment repairs, together with any correspondence related to the operation of the equipment. Record keeping is a form of insurance. We purchase insurance in the hope that we never have to use it, but sure are happy we have it if the misfortune occurs.


SEARCHING FOR A QUALIFIED EQUIPMENT MANAGER FOR YOUR GOLF COURSE?

I suggest that you contact the Golf Equipment Technician Association of Ontario, www.geta.org. All our members receive the notice. Standards and qualifications are being developed with college endorsement to establish a nationally qualified equipment manager in our association. This will enable the employers to hire qualified personnel without guessing. If an opening occurs at your place of employment, please contact me at lamurray@sympatico.ca or call Eddie (905) 898-7620 ext.520.

All readers should make time to attend trade shows, and education seminars available this winter. It is time well-spent reaping benefits down the road.



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	"A Century of Greenkeeping"	By Gordon Witteveen. 208 pages with photographs. An informative and entertaining publication, providing the reader with an understanding of the people and organizations that were largely responsible for the art and science of greenkeeping as we know it today.	\$39.95	
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Hiring staff

By Dean Baker
North Halton Golf & Country Club

One of the valuable lessons you learn as a Turf Manager is to not expect to do everything yourself. In fact, a key ingredient to the success of any good manager is the development of the team he or she creates. For it is with this "team", that you can successfully meet your goals and objectives.

Often Superintendents will consider the science of growing grass the most important part of their job. In the end, this may be true, but the Superintendent does not do it alone. As some would say, "You are only as good as the people around you". My experience with Superintendents, I deem to be good managers, has proven this theory. They have all surrounded themselves with good people. From this, many of these individuals have moved on themselves, to become good Turf Managers.

Hiring the right people

One of the toughest selling points of the turf industry is its seasonal nature. The majority of the staff we hire do not get the benefit of a year round job. Although everyone we hire is not an aspiring superintendent, we should always consider that the same rules apply with any employee. The idea is to create an atmosphere that people will enjoy, in order to successfully get the work done. In setting up the criteria to hire staff, there are a few important points to consider.

1. Spend the time finding the right people...(do your homework).

Finding the right employees should never be considered a 10-minute process. Like anything, the more time spent looking, interviewing, and selecting your team...the better the results. Wise Superintendents usually start their search early in the New Year. This would naturally coincide with those "keen" individuals looking for the perfect summer job. As you get closer to the start of the season, obviously your choices will become limited. Another key factor to this is keeping employees. Sometimes this is out of your control, but often it is as easy as congratulating them on a great season and telling them they have to come back next year!

The importance of an interview is to get a picture of the individual you will be working with. It is not necessary to know the person's life story, but it is important to know that they will complement the team. How much time does this take? This could depend on the type of job or the level of responsibility they will be given. Most importantly, take the time you need to feel comfortable with the potential employee.

Some managers are naturally, good judges of character.

Through the process of interviewing, they know the type of person who will be an asset to them and their style of management. Regardless, the skill of interviewing, asking the right questions, and finding the right people for your team, does take time to learn. The most important issue is to make the effort in getting to know these potential team players. The results can be very rewarding.

2. What is the job you are hiring for...(be specific & honest)?

In looking for the right people, the manager has to understand what they are hiring them to do. A job description is very important because it outlines the tasks the individual will be expected to perform, along with the skill level required. Often a job is not clearly defined. Working outside is wonderful, but doing bunker work 24 hours a day, 7 days a week is not. It is important that this potential employee understand all the aspects of the job, both good and bad. In doing so, the onus now lies with the worker accepting the responsibility you have given him / her.

3. Find the person to fit the job.

Save yourself a lot of time and make sure you are looking for the right people for the right job. Pinpoint the job requirements through experience, education, availability, maturity, personality, etc. If you are looking for technical help or someone with experience, it is best to inquire through Institutions or Associations in the turf industry, (i.e. University of Guelph, Seneca Collage, O.G.S.A., C.G.S.A.). For non-technical employees, job fairs or even ads in the local paper can bring in an array of applicants.

Again, be specific in the job you are hiring for and look for those people. It is obvious you cannot hire a high school student to work April to October and cut fairways 3 days a week. Although the price may be right, the experience, maturity, and availability do not work. Finding a more suitable match may initially take more time, but will save you down the road in training, potential repairs, etc.

4. How much does this job pay, and what are the benefits?

A very important question to anyone looking for a job. They want to know what the compensation package entails. From an employers standpoint this is a very important question to consider. The turf industry is always staying competitive with its wage scale. It is important to stay abreast of wages within your area and what other employers are paying. In comparison to something like

the fast food industry, most young people would rather work for close to or better than minimum wage...working outside than inside.

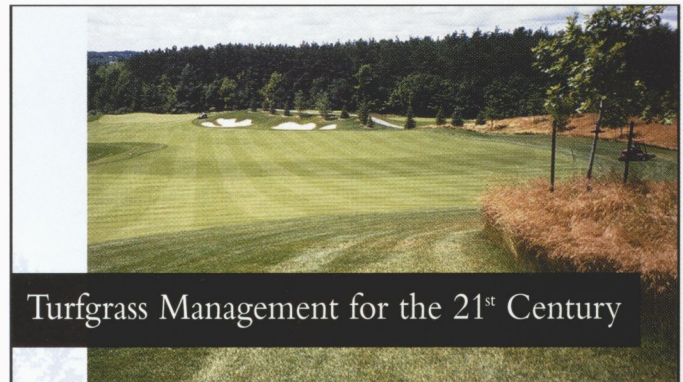
5. Make the work enjoyable...(a managers creativity).

Any employer should understand that a happy employee is a good employee. It is the intelligent and creative thinking of the manager to provide a good working atmosphere for all employees. Sometimes we do not have the greatest working conditions and certainly some jobs can be very monotonous. This is where a manager can shine in making the best of tough situations. Knowing your staff and having them understand the importance of why we do any job on the golf course, is the foundation for good working relationships. For it is with these relationships that a true team atmosphere is created. Remember, you cannot maintain and operate this Golf Course on your own... it takes teamwork.

6. Interview etiquette...(being professional).

One part of the interview process that is severely lacking in the turf industry is the etiquette involved in hiring key labour. Many applications may arrive at a golf course throughout the year. It is certainly not the clubs responsibility to respond to every application. It is generally left to the managing departments to conclude an application...to respond, file, or throw it out. In the case of a club advertising specifically for a key managerial position, etiquette would warrant that all applicants be kept informed of the process from start to finish. Clubs will recommend that due to the potential amount of applications received, only those interviewed will be called. That is acceptable, but the applicants that remain and do go through the interview process, should be informed of any decisions, in their favour or not. Too often, applicants are either never contacted or left to hear from other sources. This is the manager's responsibility and is in fact, only common courtesy.

As golf course Superintendents, most of our job entails dealing with people. This could be anyone, from our own staff to golfers, members, general managers, greens committees, etc. The emphasis is always the end product, the Golf Course...but the Golf Course requires the input of many people for its success. Growing grass may not be rocket science, but putting a good team together to have a great Golf Course is the challenge of every good Superintendent. Use your time wisely and invest in the right people. The results can be very gratifying.



Turfgrass Management for the 21st Century

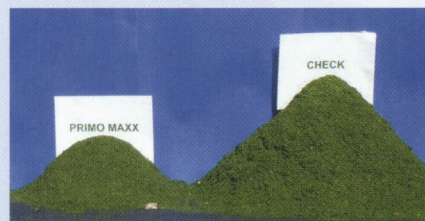
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- **\$625.00 + GST** Non-member advertisement for any position (i.e. General Mgr., Sales Staff etc) with next mailing.
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Communicate through your Club's website

By Jerry Richard, Superintendent
Oxford Golf & Country Club (Craigowan)

One of the most difficult things we do as Superintendents is attempt to communicate through to our club members and clientele. Many of us have a monthly newsletter that may consist of a page or less, dedicated to Course Maintenance, or part of a bulletin board in the locker rooms of our clubhouses. As more and more people and businesses are becoming 'cybernized' there is a great opportunity to explain our maintenance operations in a form that golfers can relate to.

About 2 years ago my club, Craigowan, set up a website through Execulink in London. My father-in-law, who is somewhat of a computer wizard, set up a basic website with pages dedicated to history, location, Golf Course, clubhouse, pro shop, and contacts etc. Many Clubs will already have a website in place, so that part is already done for you. At that time I didn't know how it all worked, but after some study (trial and error), I have learned how to update the entire site and even add new pages such as long range, environment, links, and archives to store old information. Now, with the help of a digital camera, I do a daily

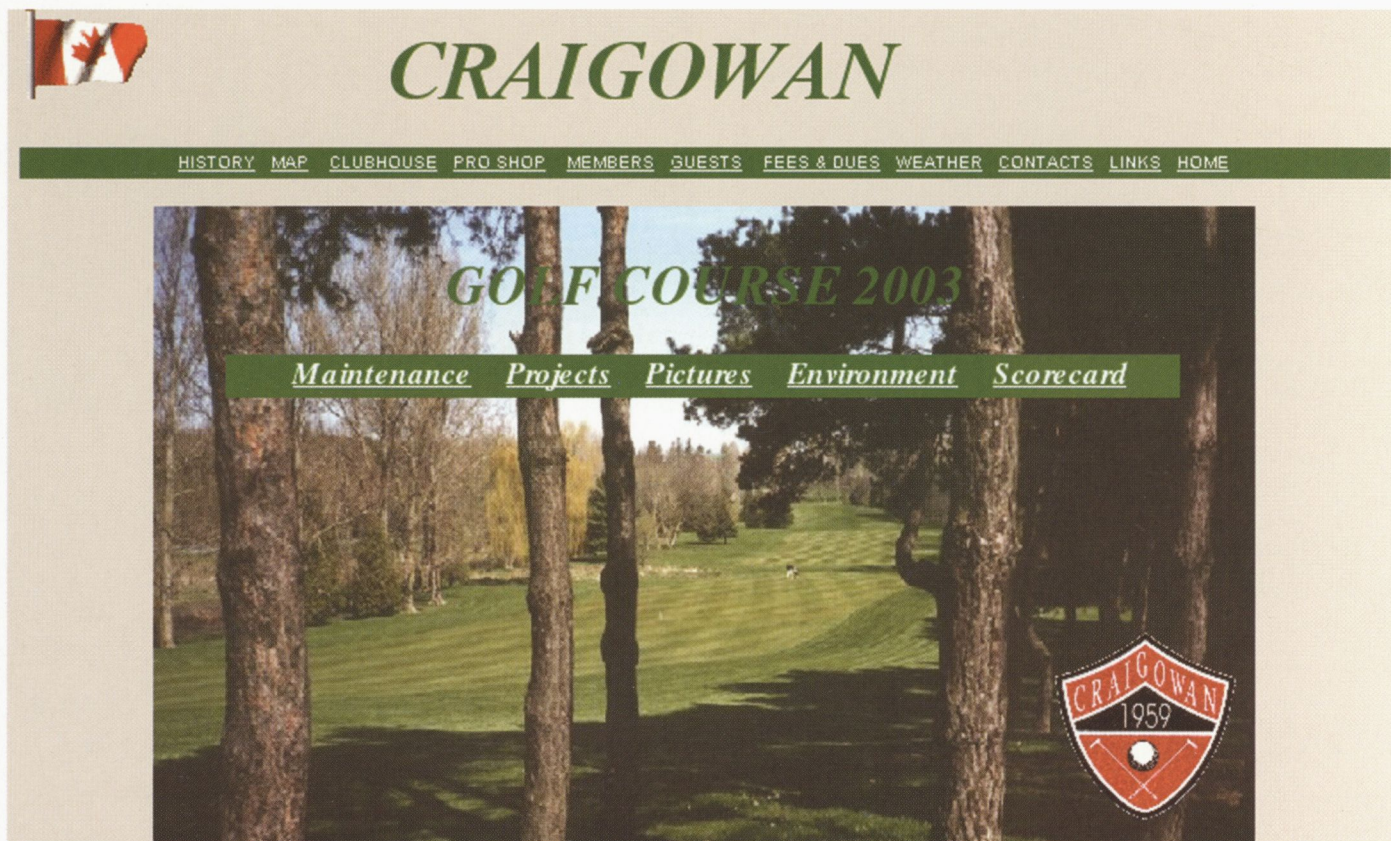
Golf Course maintenance update with pictures and text. It takes 15 minutes or less in the morning to do, but the time saved answering members' questions, out on the course, easily makes up for this. Members now comment on how they enjoy the site and eagerly await updates. Snowbirds, down south for the winter, are able to keep up with the happenings at the Club at this time of year. It is possible with the use of archive pages and picture databases that accumulate with time, to put out an up-to-date maintenance page that can explain work operations going on that day. If you get questioned on something, you can say that it is on the site. People will get used to that and frequent the page more often. The other positive thing to all this, is that it has been very enjoyable learning how to create and communicate through a website.

The job of setting all this up fell into my lap because nobody else at the club seemed to have the time to do it. If someone at your Club is responsible for updating your website, then you need to cooperate with that person so that you can update the maintenance page yourself. Updating a website with 2

different computers can be tricky but it is possible once you are familiar with the FTP 95 program. Microsoft Front Page is the program we use for our webpage layout. You will need a basic knowledge of editing, inserting, resizing and storing pictures and information, as well as picture scanning or digital camera use. Scanning works well with existing pictures. The size 300x225 pixels is a good size for websites, so make sure your digital camera is set to take small pictures, or else downsizing will reduce the clarity. A HIT icon on the home page will tell you how many people are visiting the site. I was often frustrated because what I was looking at on my computer was not the same as what was actually on the webpage. It will require lots of practice and the help of a computer guru to make your updating run smoothly. Remember, if you begin frequent updates of a maintenance page, you will have to keep it going, or else golfers will be disappointed. Only do what you feel you can maintain.

Our website is www.craigowan.com.

Good Luck!



Golf course highlight

St. Thomas

Golf & Country Club

P.O. Box 587, St. Thomas ON N5P 4B1

Golf Course Superintendent: Ryan Beauchamp

Email: rbeauchamp@execulink.com

website: www.stthomasgolf.com



This stone bridge is located at the green on the signature 3rd hole at 420 yd, par 4.

Photo by Wade Beaudoin

COURSE PROFILE

What county is your club located in?

Elgin County

Is your club private, semi private, public, resort ,municipal?
Private

Size of membership?
575

Number of rounds?
32,000

Typical opening and closing date?
April 1 to November 30

Name of Superintendent?
Ryan Beauchamp

How many years have you been a superintendent?
15

Are you CGCS or Master Superintendent?
No

List other accomplishments (Audubon, board service etc.)
Audubon Certified (1999)
Kettle Creek Conservation Environmental Stewardship Award (2001)

How many years have you been an O.G.S.A.. member?
16

How many year round staff?
4

How many seasonal staff?
15

How many mechanics and assistants?
Jason Bubel (mechanic)
Wade Beaudoin (Assistant)
Jason Gillard (2nd Assistant)

How many gardening staff?
1

COURSE STATISTICS

How many holes?
18

What is the yardage from back tees and forward tees?
6,800 back tees and 5,500 front tees

What is the size and length of driving range and range tee?
275 yards long, 60 yards wide, 6,800 sq. ft. tee

How many bunkers?
39

How many ponds, and/or how many times does water come into play?
1 pond and 1 creek for six holes

Who was the original architect?
Stanley Thompson

What was the year of original construction?
Established in 1899, Current site in 1920

By whom and when was the course remodeled?
Remodeled by Robbie Robinson in the late 1960's. Currently by Ian Andrew of the Carrick Design Firm.

What major tournaments held?
1966 Ontario Seniors Championships - Phil Farley
1978 Ontario Open - George Knudson
1982 Ontario Amateur - Bill Swartz
1985 Ontario Ladies Amateur - Anne Lavis
1989 Canadian Seniors Championships - Keith Alexander
1992 Ontario Amateur - Mike Weir
1996 Ontario Open - Martin Price

The Annual Early Bird Tournament entering its 55th year, won by such players as Moe Norman, Nick Weslock and Gary Cowan.

What is the size of your maintenance shop?
8,000 square feet

What type of irrigation system?
Toro Hydraulics with Rain Bird controllers (1 year old) and Stratus II Front Office Age-Toro (15 years old), Rain Bird (3 years old)

What is the size of the greens, tees and fairways?
Greens: 130,500 sq. ft.
Tees: 87,000 sq. ft.
Fairways: 870,000 sq. ft.

What is your predominant grass?
Poa annua

How many USGA greens and how many loam greens?
USGA - 0, Loam Greens - 19

What is the predominant soil type?
50% of our holes have sandy loam and 50% have clay loam

What equipment do you have in inventory?
2 Carryall Turf II utility carts
3 Carryall XRT turf 2 utility carts
1 Carryall 272 utility cart
1 E Z Gol utility cart
1 Jacobsen utility cart
1 Carryall IQ electric cart
3 Toro 3100 triplex's
5 Toro Flex 21 walking greens mowers
1 Toro Greensmaster 500 walker
1 Jacobsen PGM 22 walker
1 Toro reel master 2300
1 Toro 3500 D sidewinder
2 Jacobsen LF 3400's
1 Kubota 2100
1 John Deere 200 gallon sprayer
1 Hardi 300 gallon sprayer
1 Kubota L4200 tractors
1 Kubota 3010 tractor
1 Smithco bunker machine
1 Toro Sand Pro
1 John Deere AerCore fairway aerator
2 Ryan greensaire 24 aerator
5 trailers: 1-3yd, 1-1 1/2 yd, 2 landscape,
1 equipment hauler
1 Simple Dimple seeder
1 Meter Matic top dresser
1 loader/backhoe
2 Agri Metal blower
1 Lastec Rotary rough mower
1 Dual Express grinder
1 Angle Master bed knife grinder
2 greens iron rollers

various hand mowers, saws, trimmers, blowers, spreaders, graders and misc. small equipment

COURSE PROJECTS

What projects have you recently completed?
2002: Extended current 12th tee for much needed surface area and length. Addition of large fairway bunker to the right side. Addition

of small left side fairway bunker. Added green extension for much needed pin placements on severely sloped 12th green. Reshaped green side traps for visibility.

2001: Added a rear tee to the 4th hole. Raised and rebuilt white tee on the 4th to improve view to elevated green. Added 2 green side bunkers to #4 and moved cart path to take it out of view and play. Rebuilt #5 blue tee and added forward tee. Shaved down hill to remove blind tee shot and added fairway bunker to #5. Rebuilt right green side bunker for viewing, added 1,500 sq. ft. to green and added typical Thompson green mounds to fifth green.

1999: 8th hole received a tee extension for length. 2 fairway bunkers were added. The green received a 1,500 sq.ft. extension. 3 green side bunkers were also added. The green also received the addition of typical Stanley Thompson mounding. The 9th tee received a forward tee to increase area. A new cart path was built to reduce wear and compaction near the green.

LONG RANGE PLANS

What long range plans for renovation do you have in the next five years?

2003: 16th hole - Rebuild tee complex.

CHALLENGES

Are there any particular challenges you face with your property?

Inconsistent green construction over the years makes consistent management very difficult. Very high disease pressure including Pythium Blight, Anthracnose Basal Rot and patch diseases. 2 generations of atanius each year

SUCCESS STORIES

Do you have any Success stories?

Implementation of Long Range Plan and construction from the start.

INNOVATIVE CULTURAL PRACTICES

What type of innovative cultural practices have you performed?

These practices are not necessarily innovative but rare. All of our valley greens are equipped with fans to help subdue disease pressures. Our 14th green is equipped with sensor lights. This has resulted in 90% less vandalism to this roadside green.

CHALLENGE AREAS

Our 2nd fairway is located in full sun. 50% of this fairway is Poa trivialis from contaminated seed during construction in the 1970's, 25% Poa annua and 25% creeping Bentgrass. No matter what the temperature is, one species is always in decline.

Ontario Turf Symposium 2003

by Dorothy Hills
Photos by Mark Prieur

Despite the frosty temperatures, OTS experienced good attendance, again this year. The opening session featured Bruce Kirby, who during the winter of 1997, crossed Arabia's Empty Quarter, the worlds largest sand desert. He entertained his audience with a travelogue and humorous anecdotes from his experiences.

Many of our members not only attended the OTS, but

were also active as speakers and chairpersons, and also participated in the trade show. OGSA Directors and staff were on hand, with their booth, in the Galaxy Ball Room. Traffic was heavy and we were able to talk with many prospective members and existing members about current concerns in the golf industry. Thank you for dropping by our booth.

O.G.S.A. Annual Meeting

Paul Scenna chaired the annual general meeting and smoothly directed the proceedings on the evening of Wednesday, January 22nd. As voting members had previously received committee reports well in advance of the meeting, each director briefly highlighted some key components of their portfolio and readily answered concerns of the attendees.

As there were no nominations from the floor, the election of Directors was quickly concluded. Nominees, John Bladon, from Guelph Lakes Golf & Country Club and Chris Andrejicka, from Essex Golf & Country Club were acclaimed to office. We take this opportunity to welcome John and Chris to the Board of Directors. Jeff Stauffer and Randy Booker, previously appointed as directors, were officially elected to office and Rob Ackermann, Paul Scenna and Sean DeSilva were re-elected for another two year term. Our thanks goes to John Gravett for his hard work and dedication to OGSA, as he leaves the Board of Directors. Jim Flett, now past president, turned the gavel over to Mark Piccolo, who will shoulder the President's responsibilities for 2003.



2003 Executive & Board of Directors;
L-R Back Row: Jeff Alexander, Randy Booker, Jim Flett, Jeff Stauffer, Bob Burrows
L-R Front Row: Sean DeSilva, Paul Scenna, Mark Piccolo, Rob Ackermann,
Greg O'Heron, (unavailable for photo: Chris Andrejicka and John Bladon)

The Board of Directors for 2003 are:

Past President, Jim Flett; *President*, Mark Piccolo; *Vice President*, Rob Ackermann; *Treasurer*, Paul Scenna; *Directors*, Bob Burrows, Jeff Stauffer, Randy Booker, Sean DeSilva, Jeff Alexander, Greg O'Heron, John Bladon, and Chris Andrejicka.

6TH Annual O.G.S.A. President's Reception

The President's reception, an ever popular membership social event, in the Patio Ball Room, immediately followed the Annual General Meeting. The official part of the meeting included awards and presentations for the year 2002.

50 YEAR MEMBERS

Two 50 year members were honoured this year with a special a presentation by our Membership Director, Randy Booker.

Art Dodson was presented with a framed photo of the 14th hole at Summit Golf Club, where he spent many years

of his career. We would like to thank photographer, Peter Kennedy for providing us with the negative for the photo. Sean Evelyn, who has mentored under Art's direction for many years was on hand to give a brief tribute to Art and his many years in the golf industry.

Keith Nisbet was honoured for his long and illustrious career with a framed photo of Westview Golf Club. Unfortunately, Keith was unable to be present however, his son Colin, who is now the superintendent at Westview Golf Club, accepted the photograph, on behalf of Keith and will deliver it to him, with our congratulations and best wishes.

BIOGRAPHY OF ART DODSON

The family tradition began in the 1940's when Arthur Dodson's uncle, Charles "Bill" Bluett, hired him from a Toronto Golf Shop to cut grass at the Mississauga Golf and Country Club in Ontario.

From being an assistant at Mississauga he moved on to become a superintendent at Summit Golf and Country Club and then in 1960 moved to Maple Downs Golf and Country Club, which he retired from in 1986. At the 2003 conference in Atlanta, Art will also celebrate 50 years as a member of GCSAA.

Arthur's sons Paul, Bruce and Scott learned the golf business from their dad and are all members of the GCSAA. Paul graduated from Penn State and both Scott and Bruce from the University of Guelph. Paul is now a superintendent at Silver Springs Golf and Country Club in Calgary, Alberta; Bruce is currently building his own course, Heritage Hills, north of Toronto in Barrie, Ontario and Scott is the superintendent at the Park Country Club of Buffalo in Williamsville, New York.

The Dodson family roots in turf management grow deep. Carrying on the tradition is Paul's son Matthew who is an assistant at Richmond Hill Golf Club in Ontario and his son-in-law John Hudon, who is superintendent at



Art Dodson and sons: L-R Paul, Scott, Art, Jason (grandson) & Bruce

Speargrass golf club in Carsland, Alberta as well as Bruce's son Wes, who works with his dad on the new course. Scott's son, Jason works as a summer student with his dad at the Park Club.

They are a close knit family made even closer by sharing the same profession. Daughter Judy, who did not get into the golf business, is a successful music teacher residing in Richmond Hill. Art and his wife Phylis have been married 61 years and presently reside in Pickering.

BIOGRAPHY OF KEITH NISBET

When Colin Nisbet Senior, and his sons, Keith and Doug, purchased The Aurora Highlands in Aurora, Ontario in 1944, Keith was given the task of maintaining the nine-hole course. In the 57 years since he first donned a superintendent's hat, Keith has been tireless in his efforts to raise the standards and stature of superintendents in the Canadian golf industry. For that reason, he has been named the 2001 John B. Steel Award Winner.

Keith joined the Ontario Greenkeepers Association soon after the purchase of the Aurora course and was an active member while he gained a strong reputation as a superintendent. In 1957, father and sons sold The Highlands to buy 200 acres nearby that Keith shaped into the Westview Golf Club.

With his new course built, Keith picked up the pace of his association activities. He was elected to the board of the Ontario Golf Association in 1961 and chaired the OGA's greens committee in 1963, a position he held for two decades. He was also active in the Ontario Golf Superintendents' Association at that time and became its president in 1966, the same year he helped to found the CGSA.

In the 1970's, Keith was elected president of the OGA and "in that capacity he probably did more than any other person to help raise the professional image of



Colin Nisbet accepting award on behalf of his father

superintendents in our province", Gord Witteveen wrote in A Century of Greenkeeping.

A lifelong proponent of innovation, Keith became the founding president of the Canadian Turfgrass Research Foundation in 1978. He was also active south of the border as a member of the GCSAA and in 1984 received GCSAA's Distinguished Service Award.

At 84, Keith is an honorary member of several golf-related associations, maintaining his connection to the industry. He has yet to put down the superintendent's hat he picked up 57 years ago.

25 YEAR MEMBERS

This year's 25 year membership awards went to:

Peter Barnett, Richmond Hill Golf Club

Bruce Dodson, Heritage Hills Golf Club

Craig Evans, Pheasant Run Golf Club

Bill Fach, York Downs Golf Club

Cecil Hoekstra, Cherry Hill Golf Club

Mike Maynes, Ontario Turf Equipment Co. Ltd.

2002 GREEN IS BEAUTIFUL AWARDS

The Barry Endicott Article of the Year Award and the Photo of the Year Award was presented to one individual this year. Scott Heron, Superintendent at Bigwin Island for his article, "The Rebirth of Bigwin Island", and for his photo of "Deer on the 14th Hole". Both appeared in the February 2002 issue of *Green is Beautiful*.



Scott Heron

In addition to the plaques, Scott received a letter from Dean Cormach on behalf of Vanden Bussche Irrigation Equipment and Rain Bird, advising him that \$500.00 would be donated in his name to the OGSA Turf Research Fund.

We would like to congratulate Scott on his awards and for his active participation in our publication, *Green is Beautiful*. We also would like to especially thank Vanden Bussche Irrigation and Rain Bird for recognizing the importance of our publication, to our members and for their generous contribution to our Turf Research Programme.

NEW MEMBER & ATTESTEE WINNER

Again this year we had a draw of all the new member applicants, and their two attestees, who's applications were received between January 1 2002 and December 31, 2002. Many of these applicants were a direct result of our Membership Drive we had last Spring.

This year's winners are: New Member Colin Futrell Assistant at Tyandaga Golf Course, attested by Rob Gatto and Gavin Kellogg. All three winners received a lovely OGSA windjacket, from our new stock of merchandise just received into the office. These jackets are available for sale through the OGSA and we have included an order form in this issue of your magazine, on page 9. You can also get a bird's eye view of the merchandise if you go to our web site www.golfsupers.on.ca. If you have any questions about these items don't hesitate to contact the OGSA office.

EMAIL CONTEST

We continually request our members switch from

receiving their news by, hard copy mail through the post, to email notices, in an effort to save time, stationery and postage expense. In order to promote this we had a draw of those members who signed up at the booth to receive future mailings by E-mail.

Our winner of the lovely set of OGSA Old Fashion glasses was Bill Green. Bill is no stranger to us, here at the GTI, as he was Norm's assistant last year and is currently attending class at Penn State University. Bill envisions returning to Ontario when he graduates this year, to take up full time work in the turf industry.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

HERITAGE AWARD

The OGSA has developed this scholarship program to recognize the scholastic accomplishments of students who are the children or grandchildren of members of the OGSA (open to all members), and are studying a curriculum unrelated to Turfgrass Management.



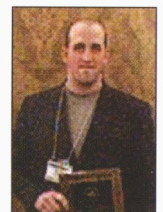
Karen Meyer

This year's Heritage Scholarship is awarded to Karen Meyer, the daughter of Douglas Meyer, who is the superintendent of Beaconsfield Golf Club in Pointe Claire, Quebec.

Karen has been preparing herself for a career in the field of Physical Therapy. Upon graduation from McGill University she plans to specialize in orthopedic outpatient rehabilitation, and eventually open her own clinic. Congratulations Karen, and good luck on all your future endeavours!

TURFGRASS EDUCATION AWARD

The OGSA has developed this scholarship to recognize scholastic accomplishments and potential leadership in the field of turfgrass management. Students who are Ontario residents and have a career goal in being employed in the golf industry are eligible to apply.



Jamie Downton

This year's Turfgrass Scholarship is awarded to Jamie Downton.

Jamie is a second year student at Lambton College and looks forward to continuing as Assistant Superintendent at the Oaks of St. George Golf Club. He would like to continue to help the course grow, and also continue his education by attending short courses, seminars and conferences.

TURFGRASS SHORT COURSE AWARD 2002

Congratulations go to Graeme Shennan, who was the recipient of the short course award of \$200.00, in April of 2002, with the highest overall average of 91%. Graeme, at the time of graduation was employed at Lakeview Golf Course, in Mississauga

1st ANNUAL HUGH KIRKPATRICK BURSARY

The OGSA, in conjunction with the Kirkpatrick family has developed this bursary program to recognize the leadership, commitment and accomplishments of Assistant Superintendent Members of the OGSA.



David Kuypers

The 1st Annual Hugh Kirkpatrick Bursary is awarded to David Kuypers, who is the Assistant Property Manager at the Toronto Golf Club.

David has worked under mentors who have taken an interest in his professional development, and this good fortune has contributed to his desire to set professional goals for himself in the three areas of: mentoring, education and accomplishment. David plans to continue his education requirements towards his GCSAA certification and is preparing to take his Masters in turfgrass science from Penn State.

As part of David's application for this scholarship he submitted an essay on "Managing Attitude". After reading his essay, I'm sure you will agree that David is a very deserving candidate. Our congratulations to you David, and best of luck in your career!

MANAGING ATTITUDE

Essay by David Kuypers

My career in turf management began when I was fifteen. Paul Scenna hired me to work at the Mississauga Golf & Country Club, mainly because I was big enough to work a flymo. Since then I have been blessed with a number of different opportunities and led many different golf course maintenance crews. After spending a number of years at Mississauga, I have been fortunate to be an intern at Augusta National, an apprentice under Mr. Paul Latshaw and now an Assistant here at The Toronto Golf Club.

Throughout those experiences and others, I have realized this about golf course staffs: essentially they are all the same. Their access to resources may be different, the language they speak may be different, and the sheer number of them may be different, but their day-to-day activities are basically the same. Indeed, I feel each and every golf course crew can be as good as any other, given the proper set of circumstances. What then is the role of the assistant superintendent in maximizing the potential of the crew? Scheduling, agronomic knowledge and organization are givens and are qualities that all assistants must possess. The characteristic that I have found to be most variable, and therefore most likely to determine the quality of production, is the attitude of the staff. The assistant superintendent is responsible for the efficiency and productivity of the entire staff each and every day. In short, the goal is to foster a professional attitude toward work throughout the operation.

The ability to create a professional attitude is probably more of an "art" than "science". Each person has their own management style, but the assistants I have worked under who were truly successful in creating a professional attitude all possessed some of the same qualities, despite radically different styles. First and foremost is respect. For the assistant, respect has to flow in two directions; up and down.


The respect that the assistant shows for the superintendent goes a long way in determining the attitude of the staff. Unfortunately, when this respect is lacking it can be a destructive influence. One reason it may occur so often is that, like all destructive behaviors, it is the easiest.

In the short term, creating an "us" against "him" mentality with the assistant siding with the crew against a seemingly unreasonable superintendent is effective in certain situations but cancerous in the long term. Statements like "I don't know why we are mowing fairways in the afternoon on a holiday Monday. If it was up to me I'd let you go, but it's not" will poison the working environment and undermine any effort to foster a professional attitude. In terms of showing respect for those you manage, a powerful motivator for me when I was a crewmember was having my ideas taken seriously. The most powerful de-motivator I have ever encountered was being lied to. I can't imagine ever experiencing anything more destructive to a working environment than dishonesty. The golden rule may be old and somewhat corny but it is timeless wisdom. If you wish others to treat you with respect then that is how you must treat them.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the sponsors of the 6th Annual President's Reception. Without their support, this would not have been possible. Thank you!

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Curling Anyone?

O.G.S.A. Spring Curling Day

North Halton Golf and Country Club is once again hosting a curling day for all those interested.



- Date:** Wednesday, March 12th, 2003
Time: 12 Noon Start
Host: Dean Baker
Place: North Halton Golf and Country Club
363 Maple Avenue West
Georgetown, Ontario L7B 4S5
Fee: \$15.00 per person (payable on arrival)
Price includes: Min. (2) 4 end games
Coffee, Soup and Sandwiches
Great Hospitality

Anyone wishing to join in on this fun day of curling,
RSVP Dorothy Hills at O.G.S.A. by March 7th, 2003.

Phone: (519) 767-3341 or Toll Free 1-888-824-6472

Fax: (519) 766-1704, or Call Dean Baker at (905) 877-8784

If you do not RSVP, on sight walk-in's are welcome, however, you will not be guaranteed to play.

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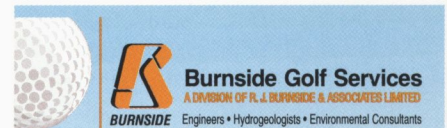
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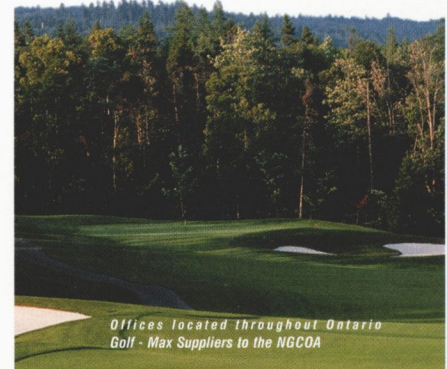
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OSC/NUTRITE 14th ANNUAL SEMINAR

by Alex La Belle CGCS

Another year; another great seminar series hosted by Ontario Seed Company and Nutrite. This year 210 Superintendents, Assistant Superintendents and industry representatives were treated to an excellent day of lectures, hospitality, dining and camaraderie. In all, over 150 golf courses were represented. Cory Janzen and the Westmount Golf Club hosted us in the twilight of the season, November 21st, 2002. What a terrific way to appreciate the patronage of your customers. OSC/Nutrite always do it with style and a smile!



Neil Acton and son

First order of the day (after coffee) was an interesting presentation by Ken Pavely of Landscape Ontario. Ken gave us an update on the pesticide situation with regards to government regulations and pending bylaws in the vein of Hudson, Quebec. The #1 selling product out of the garden store in Hudson Quebec after 12 years of a bylaw is herbicide weed and feed to untrained and uneducated home owners. In New Tecumseh it is being proposed that on golf courses pesticides only be applied within 60 feet of the putting cup. I can envision four cup locations on every hole on spray days! Councillors need help in understanding fact from fiction and it has to be presented in a respectful, intelligent, non-emotional manner to avoid a dog's breakfast of bylaws. Check your local newspapers and cable channels to find out when the council meetings are coming up and what is on the agenda. We live, work and raise children in the community too!

Next up, Wayne Lynch, Elroy Timmes and Barton Gilbert of Natural Golf Solutions presented some very interesting insights into pond regeneration. Those of us with ponds might do well to seek out the information this company has to deal with stagnant ponds using a liquid, live microorganism distribution system [LLMO]. The process involves the introduction of bacteria to reduce algae, odour and organic deposits such as leaves, excessive fish and animal wastes. The company uses an automated delivery system [GES Delivery System] to regularly introduce bacteria into the pond. This provides for steadily improving conditions over three to eight weeks. Natural Golf Solutions also produces the additives used in aquariums and they have used the same principal on a grander scale. For information you can visit the web site at www.naturalgolfsolutions.com.



Dr. Julie Dionne

Dr. Julie Dionne presented us with a "Practical Guide for Golf Green Protection". Dr. Dionne's presentation showed more ways to cover greens than I thought possible. It is a measure of how seriously we take this topic when you see the lengths that

superintendents will go to protect our courses. We saw examples of greens covered with perforated blankets, solid tarps, a combination of both, perforated tarp/straw & drainage tile/Solid tarp on top and on and on. The best being about two feet of ...you guessed it... snow. Julie's talk fit nicely with Dr. Hamilton's presentation on winterkill.



Dr. Doug Brede

Dr. Doug Brede had some eye opening revelations regarding newer varieties of bluegrass that thrive and survive at heights of 1/2" and slightly lower. Bluegrass is making a comeback and I'm sure that this will give many of us an encouraging outlook towards lower use of fertilizers, water and many of the contentious products we now employ to provide excellent playing conditions at lower costs. I have two fairways that were sodded to "low mow bluegrass" in our floodplain holes. They played just as well as the bentgrass fairways on the other parts of the course and were a lot less costly/troublesome to maintain. In fact, when we were considering the species for our public course, serious consideration was given to bluegrass but discarded in favour of bent. We weren't confident that the blues would hold up over time to 0.4 heights and bent is still considered the Cadillac of fairway grasses for higher end clubs. I'd certainly entertain a re-grassing to blue down the road if the newer varieties are even slightly better than the blues we have now.



Dr. George Hamilton

The featured speaker was Dr. George Hamilton of Penn State with two topics; "A review and Update of Winterkill Problems" and "Factors Affecting Green Speed". Many of the mechanisms we have known of for years that contribute to the various forms of winterkill remain apparent but some new information has emerged. For instance, research by Tompkins and again by Cotton indicated that unhardening of plants occurs in plants that aren't properly preconditioned to the stresses associated with winter injury. Maintaining optimum potassium levels in the late fall, in accordance with soil tests, do have a significant role to play in hardening cell walls and affecting cell solute concentrations. The use of PGR's may have a role to play in the increased accumulations of carbohydrates thus enhancing the ability of the plant to withstand lower temperatures. Apparently ice removal and air injection [oxygen in/carbon dioxide out] does little or nothing to alleviate ice damage and can in fact make the situation worse by subjecting the plants to physical damage and desiccation. It has been found in one situation that dyed turf stood a better chance of survival perhaps due to the darker colour keeping temperatures of 1/2 to 1 degree warmer than other sites; a variation on the charcoal or dark fertilizer practices. It

has also been observed that fall light levels have a direct effect on winter damage. Greens that experienced more shade were less able to accumulate carbohydrates than those with more fall sunlight. One more thing...dark ice or white ice, it makes no difference...ice is ice!

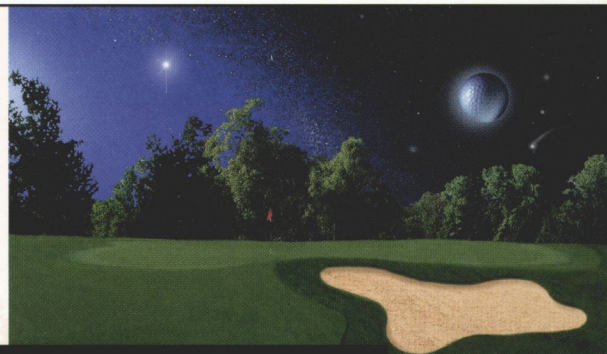
Dr. Hamilton's second topic, "Green Speed", was equally thought provoking for an "old topic". In 1904 Harry Colt said, "Speed would be too costly to achieve to be worthy of consideration". In 1929 the first green speed measurement was taken. In 1937 Ed Stimpson developed a tool to assess the "consistency" of greens. In 1977 the average greens' height was 3/16", greens were cut Monday, Wednesday and Friday and 8.5 feet was considered fast. In 1981, C.S. Thorsell found that a 0.03 reduction in height would yield a 6" increase in ball roll. At 1/10 of an inch that's one third of the leaf surface. What are we doing to ourselves? What are the side effects of closer and closer mowing? Answer? Decreased photosynthetic abilities, decreased rooting, decreased stress tolerance, decreased carbohydrate accumulation, increased poa and moss presence and increased stress all around! At Bethpage the greens were cut at 0.07, rolling 14 feet and Johnny Miller was talking about grain!!! Who are the members listening to when they decide they want to increase speed? Grain at 0.07...give me a break!!!

The wine and cheese social hour at the end of the day was a great way to wind things up and give us all a chance to meet the speakers one on one and to offer each other season's best wishes.

Thanks to two great friends of the Superintendent; OSC & Nutrite. Well done!

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Off the fairway ... "Daisy Moore on Gardening"



by Daisy Moore

There are many seeds of ideas scattered in my head and many yet to be added. It's winter but this is the time to gather and process ideas in preparation for the growing season. I love my garden in the winter. With the snow cover, I can look at the landscape with fresh eyes and imagine new plant combinations, new shapes and new spaces. I bet that a few bunker ideas have been born by superintendents when viewing a golf hole on a sunny winter's day.

This year, I have noticed and now appreciate my evergreen trees more than ever before. My seedling investments of a few years ago have paid off. There are some truly magnificent evergreen specimens in the garden. I planted a "Hoopsi" blue spruce about 8 years or so ago. These are the ultra-bluer-than-blue Colorado Spruce that are highly sought after! It secretly grew more than 18 inches last year and now stands over 12 feet tall. It is partnered with a regular Colorado blue which does its' very best to look as good. Together they form the beginning of an alleyway which leads down to the edge of the Elora Gorge.

That is quite a magical little spot itself which I will tell you about in a future article.

I have quite a lot of gardening ahead of me this spring. We've put an addition on our house and consequently there is a lot of repair work to do. I was quite impressed by

the expertise of the back-hoe operator on the job. His specialty is pools and so he is superb at working in tight corners and had the equipment to back it up. I was there with a watchful eye as some major tree roots had to be sacrificed. I hope that the trees will forgive me. The building has opened up many opportunities for gardens. It reminds me of when I was growing up when Dad would build a shed and Mum would put a garden around it. Dad, like most Englishmen, liked building sheds!

Speaking of England, I'm fresh off the plane from there with all sorts of ideas to digest. Not that English gardens are overly inspiring in January, but there is a style there that makes you alter your perspective a little bit. Gardens are a given in England. The climate and culture make it inevitable. Walls and hedges form boxes in residential areas with personalized gardens within them. Many residents have a glass house with seeds started inside or productive fruit trees espaliered around the property. Why not!

In my travels, I happened upon the largest garden centre in Europe. Among many things, they had mature boxwood topiaries of chickens, rabbits and dogs, they had bundles of "hedging" beech, packs of plant combinations suitable for various site conditions like dry shade or windy and hot. The presentation and selection were amazing. There was an unbelievable choice of edging materials as the English style includes keeping the gardens contained and in bounds.

We also managed a trip to Kew

Gardens in west London. We had two tired and hungry children and only an hour and a half until closing time. We do tend to push the limits sometimes when on holiday! We sprinted to the glass houses for warmth and for things to see. Even with that as our focus, my favourite part of Kew was a secluded garden outside the glass houses which contained living gazebos made from Wisteria vines or expertly pruned deciduous trees. All five senses were catered to in this garden. For sound you could hear the trickle of water from a nearby stream and the rustle of a bamboo hedge growing along its edges. I would love to see that garden in the spring. The cart and walking path followed the stream up to a bridge and then veered away. Quite simple but very lovely. The greenhouses were full of life and lovely, of course, but I do tend to prefer looking at examples of gardens and plant combinations which we could possibly attempt in our temperate climate.

It would be nice to garden in England sometime, where the snow drops are already up and spring at the brink of breaking. At the moment though I am grateful for the winter and the time to process ideas and prepare for the spring.

Listen to Daisy Moore on Gardening.

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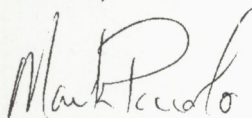
Each year we are requested to submit nominations for the Canadian Superintendent of the Year Award. In order to ensure that everyone is aware of these opportunities, we are requesting that you submit the name of a deserving member.

Some of the criteria to select the candidate, who will be supported are as follows:

- Years as a Class A Superintendent.
- Involvement in Association business.
- Length of time employed at one club.
- Number of Assistants now working in the business, that have worked for candidate.
- Letters of reference from supporters, i.e., Superintendents, Managers, Pro's, Chairmen etc.
- Involvement in community work, etc.
- Other nominations will be considered based on presentation and availability.
- No member of the board can support a nominee, or be nominated.

The nomination form is shown below. It is to be filled out and returned to the O.G.S.A. office no later than Tuesday, April 1, 2003. If you require a nomination form, you may request one be sent to you by fax or mail, from the OGSA office.

Sincerely,



Mark Piccolo, President

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(A) Name of Nominee: _____
Signature of Nominee: _____
Golf Course Worked At: _____

(B) Name of Person/s Nominating: _____
Signature of Person/s Nominating: _____

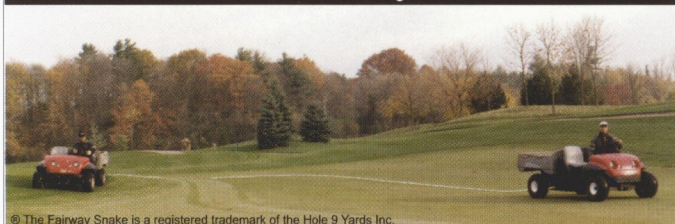
(C) Nomination to be accompanied by 1 or 2 type written sheets, describing why you or your group feels this person deserves this recognition and honour.

(D) Include letters of reference from supporters i.e. Superintendents, Managers, Pro's, Chairman etc.

Return form no later than Tuesday, April 1st, 2003 to:

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If you would like to have your course highlighted in *Green is Beautiful* contact Dorothy at the OGSA Office (519) 767-3341 or toll free (877) 824-6472. It's as easy as filling out a form and sending in a picture.

Courses are highlighted in the magazine as space becomes available. It's a great way of promoting your course, yourself, and your staff to your members and supervisors.

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Ninth annual golf course hockey challenge

by John Taylor

Hunters Pointe Golf Course

The 9th annual Golf Course Hockey Challenge was held on January 28th and 29th in Fort Erie, Ontario. Twelve teams of Superintendents, Assistants and Suppliers competed in a two day, round robin tournament with the Northern Ontario team emerging as the overall champion, for the third consecutive year.

This year's tourney consisted of teams with players hailing from all over Ontario, Quebec, New York, New Jersey, Michigan, Kansas and California.

The industry support was again fantastic with ClubCar sponsoring the Tuesday night party, Turfcare/Toro sponsoring the ice time, Vanden Bussche/OSC providing after game refreshments, and John Deere and Duke Equipment sponsoring draw prizes at the party.

Thanks to all the industry support, the timekeepers, referees, coaches, players and the spectators who came out to show their support.

Tournament committee

Scott Dodson & John Taylor



1st place team, "The Georgian Bay Storm" Photo by Mark Prieur

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On the environmental front

ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATE FROM O.G.S.A.

By Jeff Stauffer

Credit Valley Golf Club

NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT ACT

The Ontario Ministry of Agriculture & Food (O.M.A.F.) is completing Stage II in developing new Ontario regulations under the Nutrient Management Act. You may be hearing about these developments and their specific impact on the agriculture industry in the news over the next few months. The O.G.S.A., along with the R.C.G.A. have been in contact with officials from O.M.A.F. requesting to be included in the process when regulations specific to golf course management arise. We have also submitted comments and questions for clarification to the Ministry regarding the Consultation Draft to Ontario Regulation under The Nutrient Management Act, 2002. Please be informed of our involvement starting with Stage III of the process, commencing in the spring of 2003.

IPM ACCREDITATION

The IPM Accreditation continues to be developed and will be formally launched in early summer of 2003. The O.G.S.A. will be distributing a documentation binder to all Class AA, A, and B members in time before the 2003 season begins. The forms included in this binder will become the standard requirement within IPM Accreditation and from which all information will be gathered for use towards the audit or verification process. More detailed information will be included inside the binder.

To become IPM Accredited you and your facility will have to complete the following:

1. Pass a written exam.
Level I Accreditation
2. Submit material and pass desk review. Level II Accreditation
3. Pass an on-site audit/review once every three years. Fully Accredited

4. Obtain 8 Continuing Education Credits (CEC's) annually by attending approved seminars or write another exam in lieu of obtaining 8 CEC's.

The IPM Accreditation program is being developed as a verification process that IPM principles are being followed at our golf courses. There will be some adaptation required within our operations, more specifically, in the area of documentation. Documentation is the single area where we have failed as an industry and this program will assist us towards implementing a

standard documentation practice. Practicing IPM has been fundamental for managers of turfgrass and the IPM Accreditation program will verify those practices through a third party offering credibility that can only increase through your successful participation in the program.

If you have any questions regarding the development of the program or the documentation binder, please contact the O.G.S.A. office or Jeff Stauffer at (905) 275-2505 ext. 225 or email: jstauffer@creditvalleygolf.com

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Turf or consequences

by Doug Breen, Superintendent
Conestoga Golf Course

Here's a little something I put together in the late hours of Christmas Day, after the kids had dropped off into sleep. A sleep which was delayed by the hyperactivity that comes with Santa and twenty-five pounds of chocolate that Grandma gave them. I know that this won't see print before February, but if you're like me, it takes a while before you're ready to deal with the post traumatic stress syndrome anyway.

'Twas the night before Christmas,
and all through the screaming,
Not a toy is assembled,
and my tools are all missing.

I went down to the basement,
(where they used to be kept)
But the toolbox is empty,
and the screwdriver's bent.

My wife's potted flowers
all over my bench.
Bolts and screws are all mixed up,
I'm getting a Headache!

My children are nestled
all snug in their beds.
I'll kill the sick idiot
who invented slot heads.

No wrenches, no pliers,
no hammer, no knife.
"These screw holes don't line up,
Please come take my life."

Instructions in German
I'm starting to panic.
I can't build a thing
Without Troy, the mechanic.

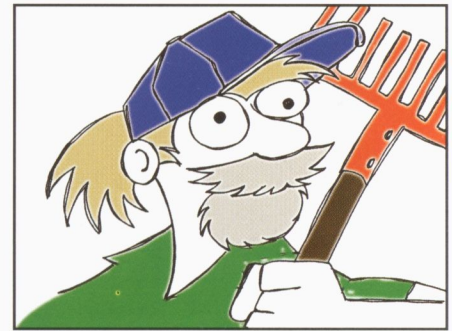
Put tab 'A' in slot 'B'
"Where's the duct tape? You had it!"
"Get out of my light."
"There's parts missing, dagnabbit"

Wee tiny pieces,
piled neat on the floor.
Got kicked down the register,
and under the door.

"These bolts are too short."
I swore more, I brooded.
"No, I *didn't* buy batteries,
box says they're included!"

So out on the crest,
of the new fallen snow.
To the seven eleven,
in track pants I go.

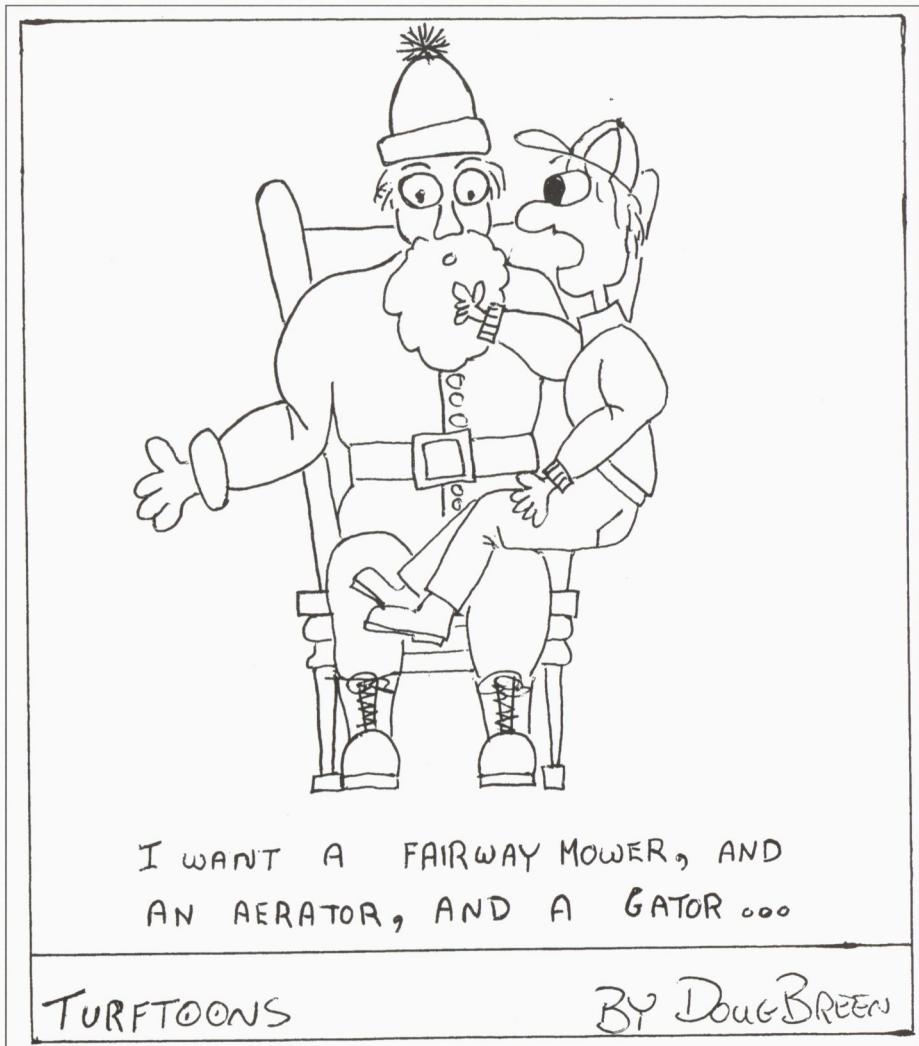
I'm freezing. I'm running.
I still lost the race.
The seven eleven,
locked the door in my face.



I pounded. I screamed.
I ranted. I railed.
He called the police,
and they put me in jail.

My wife bailed me out,
and she found the vice-grips.
We went by the Golf Course,
got nuts and 'C' clips.

She assembled the toys,
(while I was in the can).
Thank goodness for Krista,
she's saved Christmas again.'



Looking back

35 years ago today

by Barry Endicott,
Nobleton Lakes Golf Club

In 1968, **Dave Gourlay Sr.** was the president of the OGSA. **Keith Nesbit**, **Gord Witteveen** and **Dave Moote** were retiring directors and **Bob Moote** was the past president.

Tom Unsworth moved from Clearstream Country Club in Oakville to St. Thomas Golf Club and **Bob Heron**, assistant at the Board of Trade Country Club was appointed Superintendent at Brampton Golf Course. **Dave Baker** moved to Glen Cedar Golf Course and **Don Creed** left London for Orchard Hills Golf and Country Club in Michigan. **Ian Williamson** moved to Castlegar Golf Club in B.C.

On January 8th, there was a curling meeting at Bayview Country Club with **Ed Ortlieb** as host. The rink skipped by **Curly Endicott** and comprising of **John Stoughton**, **Carl Wagner** and **Bernie Macdonald**, won the trophy defeating **Bob Moote's** rink. President **Gourlay** reported on a possible Greens Chairman Superintendent Day and a Pro Superintendent Day. On July 9th at Richmond Hill Golf and Country Club, the first Greens Chairman Superintendent Day was held. **Tom Mascaro**, president of West Point Products, was the guest speaker and **George Darou** was the host. OGSA dues were \$15.00 for

superintendents and \$25.00 for associates. CGSA membership dues were \$15.00 and GCSAA dues were \$50.00. **Bill Forrester** was made an Honorary member of the OGSA, after retiring from 20 years at Weston Golf Club. **Robbie Robinson** was also presented with an Honorary membership on his retirement as Director of the Greens Section of the RCGA. **James Hickman**, chartered member of the OGS recently passed away in London. The CGSA held their first Turf Research Foundation meeting at the Skyline Hotel on March 19th in Toronto. **Tom Johnston** replaced John Steel as President of the CGSA.

35 years ago today "April 1968 Green is Beautiful Article"

IRRIGATION COSTS AND PROCEDURES AT ST. GEORGE'S

by Bill Hynd, St. George's Golf and Country Club

The irrigation system at St. George's consists of 9 miles of P.V.C. plastic pipe sizes 2" - 6". Most fairways have twin lines down each side of fairway 90' apart. All greens and tees have "Pop Up" sprinklers, from 3 to 6 "Pop Ups" depending on size of green.

City water is boosted up to 140 p.s.i. at a capacity of 600 gallons per minute. With the increase in price of city water from 35 cents to 40 cents per 1000 gallons in quantities over one million gallons, it is necessary to review the application of city water in the irrigation of St. George's Golf Course. The amount of water used during the years 1965, 1966, 1967 was 23.5 million, 25.5 million and 14 million gallons respectively.

This means that in a hot, dry year such as 1966, we can expect to consume 25 million gallons at a cost of \$10,000 (at present costs). During the hottest period in 1966, we used 10 million gallons in one month. On the sandy, well drained soils at St.

George's the water holding capacity is much lower than clay soils, hence the irrigation interval is much shorter.

In early summer, when temperatures don't exceed 80 degrees, we usually allow fairways to dry up below 50% available water capacity before irrigating. We will then water heavily to reach the root zone which may be from 6" - 12" deep. Intervals between watering at this root depth will be as long as possible 4 - 7 days, but this will depend on temperatures during this period.

Through the end of June and into July, we usually experience drought conditions and the possibility of temperatures exceeding 90 degrees. *Poa Annua*, which is predominant on St. George's fairways begins to lose its vigor and roots become shallow. Irrigation at this stage is more or less round the clock as the irrigation interval is gradually reduced to 24 hours as the roots become shallow. The amount of water is accordingly

gradually reduced from two hours to one-half hour settings per valve head.

We usually stop the regular irrigation cycle for three to four hours during the day, but during periods of stress, we spend those hours watering critical areas to control wilt.

To reduce water costs, we are allowing the grass to grow to semi rough 1.5" - 2" in height 75-100 yards in front of tees, bearing in mind all the traffic finishing from this area, we must prevent undue wear and tear. The total water required for greens and tees is only about 10% of the annual cost so this is mainly on account of fairway irrigation.

This is a report submitted to St. George's Greens Chairman endeavoring to clarify our watering methods and problems. Any suggestions which Superintendents might have for reducing the above costs, and still maintain *Poa Annua* Turf will be gratefully received.



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