

May 2003

# Green is Beautiful

The Official Publication of Ontario Golf Superintendents' Association

INSIDE:  
2004 OGSA  
CONFERENCE  
PRESS RELEASE

## Reflections of the First Year

### Spring into gardening Pesticide By-Laws

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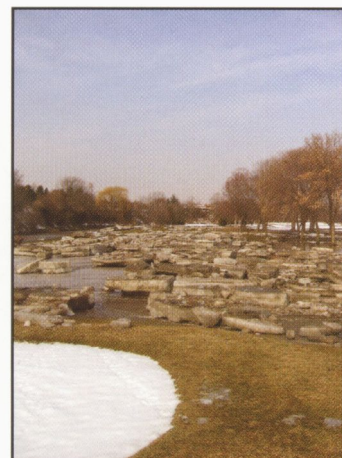
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# Green is Beautiful

The Official Publication of Ontario Golf Superintendents' Association



## COVER PICTURE

**Markland Wood Country Club**

9th Fairway After April Thaw

Photo by Mark Prieur

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



## President's message

The OGSA announced on March 31st 2003, that the first annual Ontario Golf Course Management Conference and Trade Show would be held at the Sheraton Centre Toronto Hotel from January 6th – 8th, 2004. We have chosen a facility with upgraded amenities and kept room rates affordable for the attendees. The Sheraton has excellent access for exhibitors and can stage both the trade show and speaker program in the same space. The Conference Committee and Board are very excited with the venue and are now focusing on the educational program, which will be made available this summer. Rob Ackermann, and the conference committee members should be very proud of their accomplishments thus far.

The OGSA has made an agreement with Ken Pavely and Ridgetown College to help develop the IPM Accreditation Program for the golf industry. Class A, AA and B members of the OGSA have received their documentation binder. This will become the standard requirement within IPM Accreditation from which all information will be gathered. The program will be officially launched this summer. To become fully Accredited one must pass a written exam, submit material and pass a desk review, pass an on-site audit and obtain 8 Continuing Education Credits annually by attending various approved seminars.

Ontario Superintendents continue to produce some of the highest playing standards for golf courses in the world. We are a profession of innovators, educators and historians. There are individuals among us who have not only influenced golf course management in

Ontario but throughout North America. The OGSA would like to begin recognizing these individuals with our first annual Distinguished Service Award. The award, named after one of the founders of the OGSA and first President, William Sansom, will be given annually to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the advancement of the Golf Course Superintendent's Profession. Criteria and nomination procedure will be made available shortly to OGSA members.

Jeff Alexander and the golf and meetings committee has organized a series of spectacular venues for our events this year. The Can-Am Challenge was held at the Beach Grove Golf and Country Club and we will follow that up with the Pro/Super Challenge, at the Grey Silo Golf Course, in May.

We have been reminded over the past few months of what winters use to be like in Ontario. It continues to amaze me, the amount of work that can be accomplished during this time and the positive effect it has on the efficiency of the maintenance operation. It's usually the small improvements such as refinishing a bench or the replacement of a foot brush, which members seem to notice and comment on. I'm sure everyone has taken full advantage of this time and is ready for another season.



by Mark Piccolo  
Galt Country Club



### ONTARIO GOLF SUPERINTENDENTS' ASSOCIATION

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### Green is Beautiful 2003

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# Editor's message

by John Bladon

I have always welcomed the change of seasons, particularly the change that spring brings. Hopefully each of you has over-wintered reasonably well and you enjoyed that first mowing at each of your perspective golf courses.

Recently, I sat back and thought about the first issue of *Green is Beautiful* I had ever received as a member. It was black and white and 20 pages long. Over the last few seasons, the magazine has grown into full colour and 32 pages. That is a remarkable achievement for our membership and a tribute to some of *Green is Beautiful's* editorial teams of the past. (I actually also paused in that moment and realized how big immediate past editor Jeff Stauffer's shoes were...)

For 2003 we are fortunate and pleased to have some regular contributors back in the fold; Daisy Moore, Doug Breen, Bob Burrows, Mark Prieur, Doug Johnson are all returning with their regular columns. Angelo Capannelli, long time member of our editorial committee, has decided to "kick it up a notch." We welcome Ange's new regular contribution "On the road again" and anticipate some outstanding storytelling. In light of all members receiving their IPM Documentation recently, Jeff Stauffer has made a submission to address some of your many questions. *Green is Beautiful* lives and breathes on the contributions of both members and non-members. Without them we might not have the magazine we do. In taking the time to read through the year-end surveys with Dorothy, we made note of all your suggestions for the magazine. The three major recurring themes were as follows; more technical based articles, more construction/renovation articles and finally more articles about all our

peers and the golf courses they work on. We will continue pursuing content of that nature as well as some of the other ideas you, as members, contributed.

Finally, should you have an idea about an article, a member who ought to be written about or one you'd like to author and contribute, please ring or email Dorothy at the office or drop me an email. I hope the 2003 growing season gets off to a great start and is a good one for all.



## PRECIPITATION IN ONTARIO REGION

Measured at Pearson International Airport

Provided by Ministry of the Environment

YEAR 2003		
	Average	Actual
January		
(rain)	24.9 mm	0.0 mm
(snow)	31.1 cm	41.4 cm
(total)	52.2 mm	35.4 mm
February		
(rain)	22.3 mm	22.6 mm
(snow)	22.1 cm	23.6 cm
(total)	42.6 mm	46.8 mm
March		
(rain)	36.7 mm	27.8 mm
(snow)	19.2 cm	24.0 cm
(total)	57.1 mm	50.0 mm



## Welcome!

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

<b>Larry Bell</b>	Class C
Beacon Hall Golf Club	
<b>Terry Blok</b>	Class C
Thames Valley Golf Course	
<b>Scott Brook</b>	Class C
Osprey Valley Resorts	
<b>Tom Brydon</b>	Class A
Ocean View Golf Club	
<b>Jim Burlington</b>	Class A
Loyalist Country Club	
<b>Jamie Cutting</b>	Class C
Dundas Valley Golf & County Club	
<b>Patrick Fogarty</b>	Class C
The National Golf Club	
<b>Andrew Fuller</b>	Class C
The Ottawa Hunt & Golf Club	
<b>Jeremy Gilbert</b>	Class C
West Haven Golf & Country Club	
<b>James Heppner</b>	Class A
Brock Golfand	
<b>Brent Hoppe</b>	Class C
Fanshawe Golf Course	
<b>Jason Hooper</b>	Class S
Beach Grove Golf & Country Club	
<b>David Hunter</b>	Class C
Osprey Valley Resorts	
<b>Mike Hunter</b>	Class C
Osprey Valley Resorts	
<b>Corey Larson</b>	Class F
Victoria Park East Golf Club	
<b>Tiffany MacLeod</b>	Class C
Idylwyld Golf & Country Club	
<b>Dave Moon</b>	Class A
Parkview Golf Club	
<b>Scott Palmer</b>	Class C
Lake Joseph Club	
<b>Brad Parkin</b>	Class A
Simoro Golf Links	
<b>Dave Roberts</b>	Class C
Westview Golf Club	
<b>Ryan Scott</b>	Class B
Innisbrook Golf Course	
<b>Chris Webb</b>	Class C
Fanshawe Golf Course	
<b>Ryan Young</b>	Class S
Glen Abbey Golf Club	
<b>Covell Design</b>	
D.Scott Covell	Class E
<b>The Manderley Turfgrass Corp.</b>	
Dan Bowmaster	Class E
<b>Turfbred Professional</b>	
Vince A. Cianfagna	Class E



# Turfgrass management research at the University of Guelph



by Dr. Julie Dionne,  
Assistant Professor  
Turfgrass Management  
University of Guelph  
jdionne@uoguelph.ca

We have just received very good news. Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada has accepted to match (Matching Investment Initiative Program)

the funding from OGSA for our research project entitled *Entomopathogenic nematodes: an alternative to pesticides to control turfgrass insect pests on golf courses in Ontario*. The main objective of this two year research project is to determine the efficacy of entomopathogenic nematode agents in management of crane fly larvae commonly called leatherjacket (*Tipula* sp), black cutworm (*Agrotis ipsilon*), and black turfgrass ataenius larvae (*Ataenius spretulius*) under both environmentally controlled (laboratory) and field (golf course) conditions in Ontario. This is a great opportunity to work together on alternative to chemical pesticides to control insect pests on golf courses. I am looking forward to visiting different golf courses in Ontario this

summer, to take soil samples for the nematode survey and also to set up nematode experiments on greens and fairways.

At this time I would like to welcome our newest graduate student, **Élisabeth Taschereau** (M.Sc. Candidate). Élisabeth received her B.Sc. in Biology-Ecology from University of Sherbrooke, Quebec, in 2002 and has been working with us as research Assistant, last summer, on the IPM research project on golf courses in the Montreal region. Her research project will be focusing on the seasonal ecology of the leatherjacket (*Tipula paludosa*) on golf courses.

**Paul-Jacques Tanvez**, a fifth year agriculture-engineering student from ISARA, Lyon, France is currently doing a 6 month internship with us. Paul-Jacques is interested in golf course turf management and he is preparing, in our laboratory, a thesis in turf entomology, in collaboration with Louis Simard.

At the end of April we have 5 University students who will be joining our research team as summer

students. **Chelsea Stroud** will be back

with us for a second summer, she is a B.Sc. Horticulture student at the University of Guelph, and she worked for the past 7 years on golf courses at Westmount Golf Club and Oshawa Golf Club. **Erin Jones** is a B.Sc. Geography student at the University of Guelph, and she worked for the past two years in the landscape and grounds management industry. **Scott Hopkinson** is a B.Sc. Horticulture student at the University of Guelph, and he worked at Westbrook Golf Club last year. **Julie Laplante**, a student in Agronomy at Laval University, Québec and **Mariana Oviedo**, a graduate in microbiology from the Universidad Nacional de Rio Cuarto, Argentina, will be joining us for this summer.

*On behalf of the  
Turfgrass Management  
Research Laboratory,  
I wish you a very good  
2003 season!*

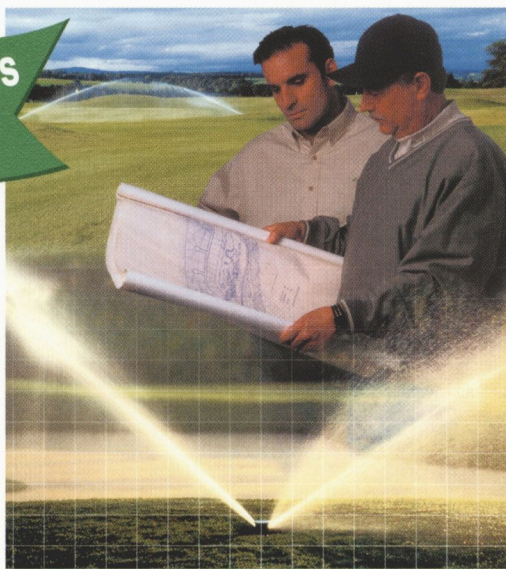
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# Canadian Golf Superintendents Association news



by Bob Burrows  
Rosedale Golf Club

For those of you who attended the recent Conference in Calgary, this is not news, but by all reports, the

conference is regarded as a great success! The educational lineup was outstanding, the venue was terrific, and the local support was evident. I would like to thank the various event sponsors and especially conference chairman, Neil Blaney and his Committee for contributing to the success of this event. Congratulations also to Jim McGarvey, upon his election to the position of President of the CGSA! Thanks also to outgoing past President Jay Leach, for all his years of service and to Bill Fach, immediate past President, for his dedication to the CGSA. We all look forward to Halifax in 2004, and some great local hospitality! Plans are already underway for an Ontario conference in 2005, with respect to determining a venue, and formalizing an educational

program. If you have any suggestions or concerns regarding the joint 2005 event, please contact me.

At our pre-conference Board meetings, approval was given to the development and implementation of a comprehensive marketing campaign aimed at non-members and non-golfers alike. At the AGM, we also announced our intention to present a proposed alignment of education with membership classifications at the next 2004 AGM in Halifax. This initiative is a continuation of our efforts to integrate the "National Occupational Standards" with our education offerings and membership classes. If approved in principle, the Board may be developing this alignment for presentation and adoption at the next AGM in 2005. Of course, prior to all that, we will be seeking extensive membership input with focus groups across Canada, to seek refinements and buy-in.

I was encouraged to see the genuine interest by many Superintendents in the municipal Pesticide debate

throughout the week in Calgary. There is a definite need within our industry to

do a better job of record keeping. To address that concern the CGSA, along with the "Engage Agro Company", has developed and will be releasing this spring a free copy of a CD which will include a spreadsheet to help with keeping track of pesticide and fertilizer applications. The format of this member benefit will be compatible with various IPM initiatives across the Country in terms of reporting structure and integration.

The registration brochure for the September 15<sup>th</sup> Fall Field Day at Legends on the Niagara is now available. We are planning to offer a free half-day seminar prior to the Fall Field Day on the morning of Sunday, September 14, 2003. This seminar will be open even to those who do not plan to attend the Field Day. The OGSA will also be hosting a Welcome Reception on the Saturday evening, with details to follow. Plan to register soon, as this event will fill up quickly and you may be left out.



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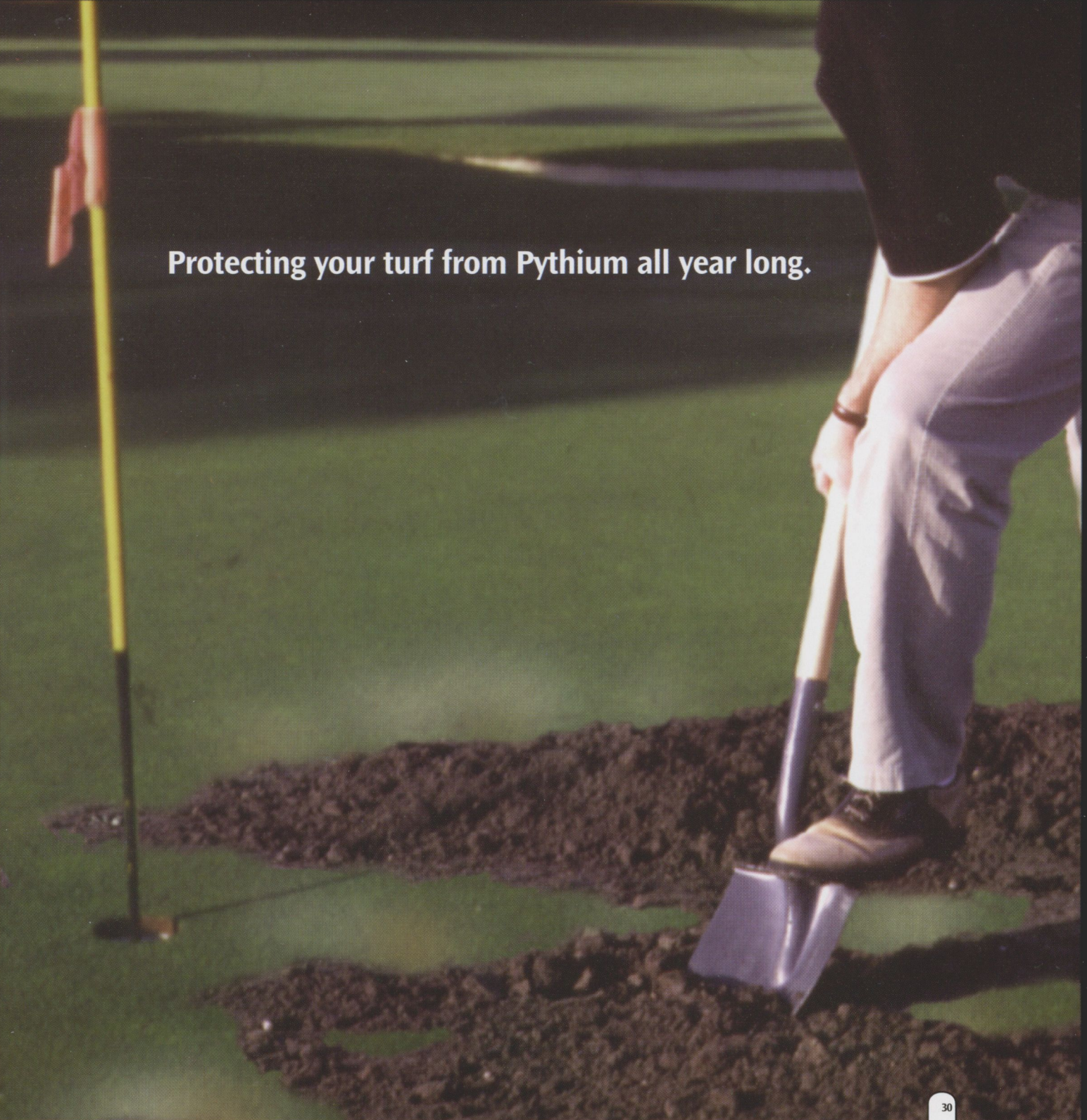
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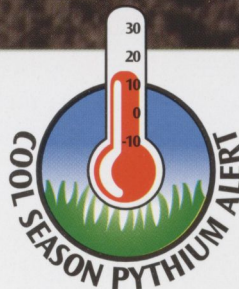




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## Health & safety

### SQUEEZE THE SNEEZE!

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

By the time you read this the season will be in full "swing"! I trust that you are all having a great season. Being the health and safety guy, I thought it might be important to have a brief discussion on the illness that is occupying a great deal of time as I write this article. Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS). I hope that when you read this the worst of this outbreak is over.

Most of you will have heard a fair amount about this illness by now. I am not about to discuss the history of this illness. You have been inundated with that, at this point.

What I would like you to think about is the potential for the transfer of illness in general. Most of us do not consider the hazards of material handling and food handling in our daily comings and goings in the workplace. Oh yes, most of us store our lunches in a fridge or we carry a cooler with an ice pack or some frozen product to aid in the cooling of the food, but do you consider how the food is handled from the farm to your plate?

This seems like an odd thing to talk about in a golfing magazine but if you take a moment and think about it and relate it to the SARS outbreak you will understand how important good sanitation practices are in the handling of food products. As I write this article, the media is discussing the transfer of this illness by two basic methods, sneezing and hand to hand contact. These two methods are the most common methods of disease transfer that we know. They are the fastest and most simple ways to transfer the common cold and to transfer contaminants from one person to another.

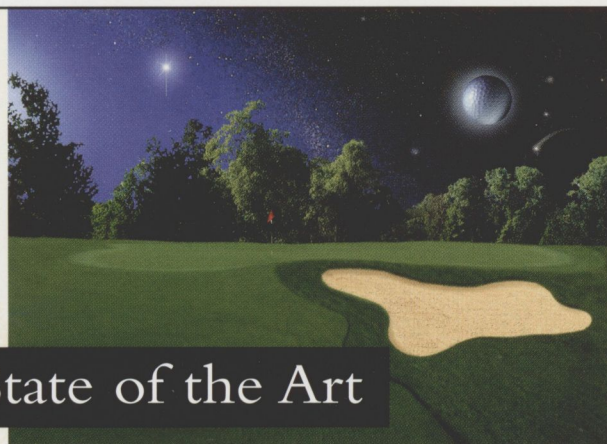
The chief medical officer of health advises that we should all ensure that we wash our hands more often and more completely if we are going to stop the transfer of SARS or many other illnesses. You have this ability.

If you are handling materials, going to the washroom, or shaking someone's hand, think about what you are then going to put in your mouth. Think about it when you might rub your eyes. Bacteria and viruses and other contaminants are generally transferred into your body through absorption (the eyes), inhalation and ingestion. You can control this by ensuring that you wash your hands thoroughly and avoid situations where you or your co-workers might sneeze in the presence of one another. If you are in a situation where someone is sneezing then consider using an N95 dust mask to control your exposure.

Think about the consequences to you and your co-workers and the public and take the time to ensure that you are not the one responsible for disease transfer.

If you have questions on this issue please call me or your local health department. Let us all have a safe and healthy summer!

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by Mark Prieur,  
Assistant Supt.  
Markland Wood CC

### All about trees...

This link was provided courtesy of our past editor, Jeff Stauffer. The International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) has put together a website on everything you wanted to know about trees. The URL is [www.treesaregood.org](http://www.treesaregood.org). At Trees are Good, there is information that answers a majority of questions and clarifies myths about tree care.

The ISA has taken the time to place their Consumer information sections

in easy to identify icons. As well, this site encourages the consumer to seek a professional when dealing with tree care. It is also an aid of communication about items such as proper mulching techniques, and the function and benefits of trees to your golfers. *Trees are Good*, visually illustrates how to make proper cuts on trees and how to care for trees that have been damaged during construction. Before doing any pruning click on this site, there is always something new to learn.

What would a website be without some sort of promotion; there is a section on "Why hire an Arborist?"

where you can obtain information on an ISA member nearest you. In addition, the disease area could be a little more in depth, but like all the sections on this site, it is written in layman's terms.

This is definitely a website that every Greens Committee member needs to visit before arranging a site visit, where decisions on the tree maintenance are usually made. If one of the Greens Committee members is not linked up, print the sheets out, the visuals and fact sheets provided are worth a thousand words.

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## Mechanic's corner

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

Another season has started and hopefully all of your equipment is functioning. Each year we all seem to experience something new no matter how many years we have been doing it. The golf industry is one of the most challenging careers that a person can choose. If I was to describe a typical day at work it would go like this .

- Plan what I want to accomplish today (doing this while driving to work)
- Make sure that all employees and their equipment are working
- Prepare the equipment that will be required in due order
- Prepare to get a surprise and throw your plans out the door because "Murphys law" just walked in.

I have learned that there are very few boring days while working on a golf course. The unexpected is the expected. I have been in the golf environment for 28 years, with 15 at Pheasant Run Golf Club, yet I have never considered myself a "Lifer." I believe this because the unexpected bring challenges to the ever-changing profession. If you ever talk to anyone about a career, employment opportunities as an equipment manager has a promising future.

**News:** Recent changes to the board of directors. Mark Atkins has decided to step down as director of education. Mark has served on the board for several years and has assisted in the training seminars at the winter schools. Thanks Mark, for your efforts in the association. Dan Ens joined the board in December 2001. Dan was very enthusiastic about helping out and he did just that. With the addition in the family and the loss of a capable Assistant, Dan no longer feels he has quality time to be a director. Both Dan and Mark have offered to help out in the future. Warren Wybega, from Donalds Golf Club, and Adam Bedell, from the Whirlpool Golf Club have been enlisted. The board of directors is pleased to welcome their input to enrich the association.

### Superintendents:

If you are looking for qualified equipment managers, please advertise through the association. For info please email me at [l.a.murray@sympatico.ca](mailto:l.a.murray@sympatico.ca) or phone Eddie at (905) 889-7620 ext.520.

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## **OGSA announces site of 2004 golf course management conference and trade show**

The Ontario Golf Superintendents' Association (OGSA) today announced its intention to stage the first annual Ontario Golf Course Management Conference and Trade Show at the Sheraton Centre Toronto Hotel from January 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>, 2004. The event will include a free OGSA sponsored pre-conference seminar, a two day trade show, and a keynote speaker. The educational program will focus specifically on current topics and issues that challenge the golf course Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, golf course equipment manager, course horticulturalist, and turf students. A full speaker program will be available in early July.

The Sheraton Centre Toronto is a four star facility located in the heart of the city that is large enough to stage both the trade show and the speaker program in the same intimate space. Great access to all conference activities for both exhibitors and delegates is guaranteed.

Mark Piccolo, President of OGSA, said in announcing the Sheraton Centre Toronto as the venue for the conference that the Board of Directors recognized the importance of finding a facility that would allow OGSA to keep the conference affordable to both members and exhibitors alike. "The goal was to secure a tradeshow hotel with an excellent location, upgraded amenities, and an affordable room rate", said Piccolo.

Conference Chair, Rob Ackermann, noted that the inaugural Ontario Golf Course Management Conference and Trade Show will be the only conference and show available in Ontario that is specific to the needs of the golf course Superintendent and the many parts of his or her operation.

OGSA has been contracted to manage the Trade Show and details of the show will be released in a prospectus in early May.

For further information related to this event please contact Ken Cousineau at 905-602-8873 ext.222 or Rob Ackermann at 416-241-5551.



**ANNOUNCES THE INAUGURAL**

## **Ontario Golf Course Management Conference and Trade Show**

**January 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>, 2004  
Sheraton Centre Toronto Hotel**

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- Two day trade show
- Keynote speaker
- Focuses on current topics & issues that challenge golf course superintendents



more information available  
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## Accreditation avenue

OGSA is happy to announce that they have signed a contract with Ken Pavely, to work on our behalf, through the negotiations and implementation of Integrated Pest Management Accreditation. The following is the first of a regular article, submitted by Ken, to communicate to our members and help ease them through the orientation process.

### Golf Feels the Impact of Local Bylaws

by Ken Pavely  
Pavely Horticultural Services

As the activity level of municipal interest concerning the use of pesticides rises by the week, the importance of having a solution becomes increasingly significant. Golf, while not receiving the same amount of attention as lawn care, is very much a part of the debate.

Below is a version of a bylaw making the rounds (by the activist groups) that popped up in New Tecumseth's environmental advisory committee report.

#### Sections pertaining to golf:

"During the four year period following the date this bylaw comes into force provided that: From the day following the second anniversary of the enactment of this bylaw *"the application of a pesticide is restricted to the "greens" or grassy portion of the golf course immediately surrounding each "hole" or "cup" to a maximum of 20 meters radius of each "hole" or "cup"*.

"Where a pesticide will be or has been applied to a portion of a golf course, signs shall be placed every twenty meters along the perimeter of the area which the pesticide has been or will be applied"

While one can see the ridiculousness of this kind of bylaw wording, it exemplifies the kind of activity that is going on that we do not see or hear about. It speaks to the importance of keeping in touch with your local councillors, and participating wherever possible in local committees.

As I tour the southern half of the

province visiting committees and councils, IPM Accreditation is without question the most significant solution that has been brought forward by the industry. The IPM Council has signed a management contract with Ridgetown College and they will shortly undertake all administrative duties with respect to IA. The development of the specific golf sectors components is now underway. As outlined by Jeff Stauffer in the last issue, the components include the exam, continuing education credits, the desk review and on-site audit.

Development of the exam will be completed in the coming weeks and Ridgetown will begin to schedule exams for superintendents beginning in July. Ridgetown holds regularly scheduled exams for MOE licensing all over the province, and accreditation exams will be available for writing in the same locations.

Continuing Education Credits (CEC) will be monitored by Ridgetown and further communication will be issued in the coming months. The Desk Review criteria will include, but may not be limited to the following items:

1. Development, implementation, monitoring, and documentation of "hot spots" on your course
2. Cultural management practices
3. Evaluation of those management practices
4. The management of pesticide applications
5. Training documentation for staff making pesticide treatments

Tools to assist in meeting these requirements are also being developed. The OGSA committee is keenly aware of the pressures superintendents face, in clubs of all sizes and budgets, and is committed to making the accreditation process workable for all.

On-site audits will verify desk review compliance and will be developed over the course of this season.

Progress reports will continue to be made both here in the magazine, and on the OGSA website. I look forward to making the IA process come together over the coming months.



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Victor Freiberg	Ken Graham
Trevor Hunter	A. Kent McDonald
David Schmelefske	



# Integrated Pest Management Monitoring and Documentation Binder Now What?

by Jeff Stauffer

Many questions have been posed regarding the use of the IPM binders since their arrival in March. This will hopefully answer some of the questions you may have as well as give you some helpful hints for utilizing the binder for your achieving IPM Accreditation. The binder was developed as a starting point for effective documentation of the decision making process. Much of the information captured is what assists us in making IPM decisions. Until now, many of us did not put our decisions to paper and this is where we can improve as professionals in our defense of using pesticides. This binder sets the minimum standards for documentation of pesticide use; however, we must also document our fertilizer and water use.

Once enrolled in the IPM Accreditation Program (IA), you will be required to submit your documentation binder (desk material) for a review by a third party auditor. The exact audit criteria are

currently being finalized and will be forwarded once it is ready.

During a recent meeting, the topic of audits was discussed in length and the following items were suggested in order to authenticate the data written into the binder.

1) **Use black permanent pen,** not pencil, for the following reasons: black photo-copies better than other colours, non-water soluble ink will not smear if your data is written while outside, where moisture can be an issue. Pencil should not be used because the data can be erased and authenticity is lost.

2) **Sign off each page.** The IPM Agent should initial each page in the same location, to verify the data and to show who recorded the IPM information for each day. This brings in a consistency that is imperative during the auditing process, if the data is recorded by different staff during the season. We recommend

the bottom right hand corner as a location for your initialing. This includes any extra pages you wish to include as part of your documentation regime. For example, if you decide to include your cultural practices in greater detail than what can be accommodated at the bottom of the daily sheets, this is welcomed as long as you initial it for verification, as the IPM Agent.

3) **All data must be dated.** Remember to date each page as you enter data. The date must be included on any additional pages inserted as well.

Other items being considered for the desk audit include Sprayer Calibration forms, Staff Training and Education forms. These items will verify necessary practices at your facility and add to your professionalism. Please be sure to look for future information included in *Green is Beautiful*.

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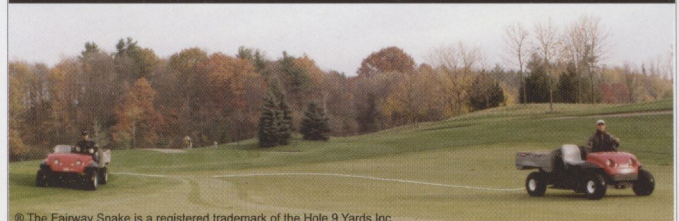
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# Can/Am Challenge at Beach Grove Golf & Country Club

by Chris Andrejicka

Despite a looming forecast of bad weather, the 2003 Can/Am Tournament went off without a hitch. Attendance this year was quite low mainly due to the Easter Monday date. In future years we will avoid holding our event during the Easter weekend.

Golf Course conditions were great (firm and fast). Many thanks go to Randy Hooper and his staff for their hard work preparing the course. We enjoyed a nice lunch and a super roast beef dinner. We made record time for golf,

and the evening wrap up was finished by 7:15pm.

The unfortunate part of the day was the crushing defeat we were handed by our U.S. counterparts. The Ryder Cup format saw Canada with 13.5 points and the U.S. with 22.5 points. The cup remains on U.S. soil at least until next spring when I hope we can improve our performance and steal back the cup.

Last but not least, many thanks to Dorothy Hills and Jeff Alexander for all their work in organizing this year's event.

<b>Canada</b>		<b>USA</b>	
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Low Gross</b>		<b>1<sup>st</sup> Low Gross</b>	
Bob Harwood	71	John Shreve	74 Retro
Gary Shultz		Mike Fouty	

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Low Net</b>		<b>1<sup>st</sup> Low Net</b>	
Paul Lemieux	66	Nigel Rennie	67 Retro
John Pickard		Roy Szyndlar	

<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Low Gross</b>		<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Low Gross</b>	
Wayne Rath	74	Chris Frank	74 Retro
Thom Charters		Oliver Boksa	

<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Low Net</b>		<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Low Net</b>	
Chris Andrejicka	68 Retro	John Nowakowsk	67 Retro
Tom Murphy		Darren Hancocks	

<b>Canada</b>	<b>United States</b>
<b>Total Points 13.5</b>	<b>Total Points 22.5</b>

<b>Closest to Hole #6</b>	<b>Skins</b>
Kevin Fran	Thom Charter #1 with 3

<b>Closest to Hole #10</b>	Jerry Richard #5 with 3
Rob Field	Kevin Frank #6 with 2

<b>Closest to Hole #12</b>	Rich Kaiser #8 with 3
Chris Andrejicka	Mike Fouty #12 with 2

<b>Closest to Line #3</b>	<b>each skin worth \$63.00</b>
Paul Scenna	



#3 Fairway, #3 Green in the Distance - Adding Focus and Interest to an otherwise Flat Topography



#14 Green 2002 - Deceptively Inviting



Chris Andrejicka presenting plaque to Host Superintendent, Randal Hooper L-R

U.S. Team  
1st Low Gross  
John Shreve and  
Mike Fouty L-R



Canadian Team  
1st Low Gross Bob Harwood  
and Gary Shultz L-R



#14 Green (View from back right) - Near misses are no good except for a day at the beach.



# Golf course highlight

## Beach Grove Golf & Country Club

14134 Riverside Drive  
Tecumseh ON N8N 1B6  
Golf Course Superintendent:  
Randal Hooper, CGCS



#7 Green Highly maintained green surround vs natural landscape of its water hazard and cart path

### COURSE PROFILE

What county is your club located in?

Essex County

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

Private

Size of membership?

1,000

Number of rounds?

34,000

Typical opening and closing date?

End of March to beginning of December

Name of Superintendent?

Randal Hooper, CGCS

How many years have you been a superintendent?

27 years

Are you CGCS or Master Superintendent?

CGCS

List other accomplishments (Audubon, board service etc.)

South Florida Superintendents  
Association Executive

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

19

How many year round staff?

4

How many seasonal staff?

1

How many mechanics and assistants?

Jason Hooper (Assistant)  
Joe Meloche (Mechanic)  
Mary Richards (Mechanic)

How many gardening staff?

Maureen Papineau (Head Gardener)  
2 staff

### COURSE STATISTICS

How many holes?

18

What is the yardage from back tees and forward tees?

6,714 yards back tees and  
5,489 yards forward tees

How many bunkers?

76

How many ponds, and/or how many times does water come into play?

2 ponds

Who was the original architect?

Stanley Thompson

What was the year of original construction?

1921

By whom and when was the course remodelled?

Bob Kains in 1999

What is the size of your maintenance shop?

1,600 square feet

What type of irrigation system?

Toro LTC (Site Pro) – 8 years old

What is the size of the greens, tees and fairways?

Greens: 4,000 square feet

Tees: 2 acres

Fairways: 24 acres

What is your predominant grass?

Poa / Bent

How many USGA greens and how many loam greens?

Loam Greens: 20

What is the predominant soil type?

Sandy to Clay Loam

What equipment do you have in inventory?

4 Toro Greens Triplexes  
Misc. extra units and Verticut Units  
9 Toro Greens Walkmowers  
2 Jacobsen LF 128 Fairway 5-Plexes  
2 Jacobsen Triking Trim Mowers  
1 Toro 3100 Sidewinder Trim Mower  
1 John Deer Trap Rake  
1 Jacobsen Trap Rake  
1 4-wheel Cushman  
4 small Jacobsen Utility Vehicles  
4 Golf Cart Utility Vehicles  
1 Gater Utility Vehicle  
1 Dedicated Sprayer (150 gallons)  
1 Tow-type Sprayer (1800 litres)  
2 Kubota Tractors/Front End Loader  
1 Ford Tractor  
3 Dump Trailers  
1 Vermeer Chipper  
1 Ryan GA-60 Aerifier  
3 Ryan Greensaire Aerifiers  
1 Ryan Core Harvester  
2 PTO Powered Blowers  
1 Turfco Topdresser  
1 Lely Spreader  
1 Ransome 6150 Rotary Mower  
1 Ransome 951 Rotary Mower  
1 Tow 5 Gang Toro Spartan Rough Mower  
2 60" Toro Rotary Mowers  
1 Brower Vac  
1 Brower 5 Gang Verticut  
3 Seeders  
1 Ryan Sod Cutter  
4 2-way Radios

Misc. small equipment/garden tools

Misc. shop tools, grinders, welders, etc.

Misc. office furniture/computer

4x4 pickup truck with snowplow and salter

### COURSE PROJECTS

What projects have you recently completed?

**2002/2003:** Add perimeter and additional sprinkler coverage for renovated features. Build new superintendent house.

**1999/2000:** Complete renovation of all green surrounds, bunkers and fairway bunkers (76). Construct new 4th green and putting green. Construct 57 new tee decks.

**1994:** New Toro LTC Irrigation system. Renovate drainage ditches.

### LONG RANGE PLANS

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

New maintenance facility.  
Renovate fairways (contour).

### CHALLENGES

Are there any particular challenges you face with your property?

Maintaining old inconsistent turf varieties  
Managing water requirements on inconsistent and heavy soil types; high ground water table of lakeside property  
Maintaining healthy "poa annua" fairways of flat topography and poor internal drainage.

### SUCCESS STORIES

Do you have any Success stories?

Planning, selling and execution of 2 major projects (new irrigation system and whole course renovation) on budget and with a successful outcome.



# Reflections on the first year

by Jennifer Pendrith, Superintendent  
Kawartha Golf & Country Club

When I was presented with the idea of writing an article about my first year as a Superintendent, my mind began racing with ideas about what focus the article should take. The transition from Assistant to Superintendent was quite a step, one full of new experiences and responsibilities that, at times, seemed overwhelming. The more I thought about my first year, the more I thought about how I got to where I am today. My success was a direct result of the impact my mentors had on me over the past nine years. Now I feel that it's my turn to begin sharing my experiences, in the hope that I can pass the knowledge I've gained on to others just starting out in the industry.

The education I received at the University of Guelph taught me the theory behind growing grass, but the experience of being a Superintendent has taught me a great deal more about succeeding in the industry. There's a lot that no one can teach you in school, and no amount of lectures can replace what you learn through first-hand experience. The role of Superintendent is multi-faceted and stretches far beyond the art of growing healthy turf.

The first day I arrived at Kawartha Golf & Country Club, I was essentially the "new guy." The first day at



Waterfall feature - Entrance Driveway

any new job can be a little intimidating, but for me, this time it took on a whole new meaning. I was now faced with being the leader and supervisor to a crew of staff that had been working there for many years. And I quickly realized how important these people would be in attaining our goals. They knew the course, they knew the problem areas, and they knew all about the methods that had worked for them in the past. They had great ideas on how to improve the course physically, and on how to help it operate more efficiently. I learned that asking for their input was not only invaluable to the course itself, but it helped to nurture a sense of pride and helped everyone realize the importance of each person's role on the team. Without their experience and team effort, the quality of conditions we achieved would have been unattainable.

In the first month at my new job, I was faced with a great number of challenges that went beyond the basic responsibility of achieving exceptional playing conditions for the upcoming season. The acquisition of a new fleet of equipment and lease negotiations, a new master plan, a tee renovation program for the fall and the planning involved with hosting the Ontario Men's



Hole#8 - Par 3





#11 Green - Par 5

Mid-amateur Tournament in May were among these tasks. I could probably write an entire article dedicated to the complications and setbacks that I experienced during those projects alone! Each task gave me an opportunity to test my decision-making skills. It was important to look at each situation from all angles, and to realize that rarely was there a clearly defined right or



Overlooking Pond to 18 Green

wrong way to accomplish each task. I learned a lot from each decision, and perhaps most importantly, I realized that I could count on my colleagues to help me through any tough situation.

I would have to say that was the most valuable lesson learned: There's a wealth of knowledge available among the individuals and organizations in the industry. The resources offered to help us keep up with new technologies and developments are invaluable. Through the Superintendent associations, other turf organizations, publications and (most importantly) my contacts, I felt a sense of security in that support system, and it gave me the confidence and ability to succeed. I feel that's what makes this industry so unique. You can be sure that the people you meet along the way will always be there to offer their opinions and advice when the going gets tough.

All of these resources help superintendents achieve their ultimate goal, the success of the club. But there is one thing that ultimately determines success: Despite the knowledge you possess, the resources you trust, the networks you've developed or the leadership you provide, none will be successful without communication. Effective communication between departments, including the pro shop and clubhouse staff members, will help to foster a team-oriented working environment. And it's very important to keep the members in mind. They are, after all, the beneficiaries of our hard work, so it is vital that we move toward goals that keep their interests at heart. As most would probably agree, our practices are not always welcomed, which makes it that much more important to keep them informed about how and why we do what we do, and openly encourage their feedback. In turn, we will gain the support of our respective clubs and be better able to effectively achieve success in our roles as superintendents.

I've made it through my first year with a membership who is proud of the conditions our team has provided, and supports all of our efforts. I know, however, that the challenges are far from over. Believe it or not, that's what I love about this profession. You will always be faced with new obstacles, new problems to solve, difficult decisions to make and new situations to experience. The learning curve is steep, and it never ends. But at the end of each day you should be able to look back on what you've achieved with a sense of pride and accomplishment.



Overlooking #18 Green to 13 Fairway



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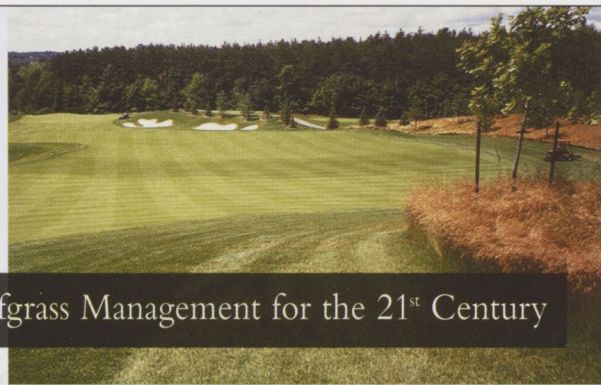


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# In Memorium

by Angelo Capannelli

George Garner passed away suddenly on December 17, 2002 at his home in Oakville, Ontario. He is survived by his wife Patricia (nee Briggs) and his daughters Kelly, Kathy and Tracey. The couple have 5 grandchildren who will miss their grandfather terribly. They are Bryan, Michael, David, Emily and James.

George was born on July 14, 1935 in Montreal. In his early days of his working career he pursued being a carpenter but quickly realized that he would better serve people, and his love for people, as a police constable. George served as a police constable for the City of Westmount in Montreal from 1957 to 1966. He learned how to play golf during this time and this is what led him to change his occupation. In 1970 he accepted the Superintendent's position at Meadowbrook Golf Club in Montreal where he served for 4 years. He then moved to Ile Perot Golf Club in Ile Perot, Quebec for a short time before moving himself and his family to Ontario, to assume the responsibility of Golf Course Superintendent at the prestigious Oakville Golf Club. At this club he worked very closely with Thomas McBroom and Associates renovating, and redesigning greens, tees, fairways and bunkers for this club. He was extremely proud to have served the members and the various committee's at the Oakville Golf Club. After 11 years at the Oakville Golf Club, George felt that it was time for a

change and again he accepted the Superintendent's position at Glendale Golf & Country Club in 1988. This was to be his final stop in his golf course career.

George and his wife Pat were long time members at Richview Golf Club in Oakville where George would play as often as time allowed. He managed to keep a handicap of 3 -6 and he was a true competitor when it came to playing matches within the club. His name is on the Taylor Barnes trophy for low gross Superintendent in the annual WOGSA event, amongst his many golfing accomplishments. He was a member of the QGSA, OGSA and CGSA.

George's energy and his spirit will be missed.



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## Announcements

### 2003 Turf Managers' Short Course Scholarship

The participant who met the criteria for the scholarship, as a resident of Ontario and employed at a golf course in Ontario with the highest overall mark in the course, is Tim Boville. At the time of graduation from the course, Tim was employed at Sault Ste. Marie Golf Club. His overall grade in the course was 93.5%. Congratulations Tim and best wishes in your future endeavours!

### Golfweek's Superintendent News "Superintendent of the Year"

OGSA member, Jeff Burgess, Superintendent at Seven Lakes Golf Course, in LaSalle, was honoured with a presentation at the 74th annual Conference and Show in Atlanta, this past February. This award, sponsored by Club Car, was presented to Jeff, who was one of three Canadians nominated for the honour, in a field of 88 nominated superintendents.

During an interview for CGSA's publication, *Green Master* Jeff was asked, "In your opinion, what makes for a

Superintendent of the Year?" "What qualities, attributes, or actions do you believe qualifies for such a distinction". Jeff responded, "I am not quite sure I know how to answer that question, since I feel most superintendents are hard working and dedicated to the profession. In my case, the criterion was someone they felt performed best under unique and unusual circumstances. I suppose the combination of having to endure weather, personal tragedies, and a grow-in project, allowed my year to best exemplify what *Golfweek's Superintendent News* was looking for." Congratulations Jeff, from all your OGSA colleagues.

### CGSA/TORO

**Future Superintendent Award** goes to Gary Stadnek, Assistant Superintendent at York Downs Golf and Country Club and recent graduate of Red River College in Manitoba.

This award program is designed to help future talent be recognized within the industry. Success in the program booked Gary on a six-week TORO

scholarship trip to Scotland to study the latest turf management techniques, with the chance to spend time at St. Andrews, the home of golf. This year, Gary will have the opportunity to work at the Dunhill Tournament. In addition, the CGSA's March Conference and a visit and tour of the Toro headquarters in Minneapolis will also be part of the prize winner's package.

### Environmental Leaders in Golf Award

Congratulations go out to one of our OGSA members, Marc Brooks, who is the Superintendent at the Stone Tree Golf and Fitness in Owen Sound. Marc has been named as one of the chapter winners of the 2002 Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA)/Golf Digest Environment Leaders in Golf Awards (ELGA).

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# Spring Into Gardening

## Remembering - The rest of the golf course!

Article and photos by Judy Johnson, President of Yardscapes  
yardscapes@cogeco.ca

Between the amount of snow and ice we experienced, coupled with the dire cold temperatures, it is no wonder that the winter of 2002/3 is a season we will all not soon forget. Since the weather is what every superintendent fights against, the 'experts' were dead wrong in predicting this past seasons' weather. 'Mild winter with very little snow', 'El Nino will be the only force to deal with'. These are both vicious rumours that were circulated throughout the summer and fall season of 2002. Well the joke is on us!! The winter weather left a great wake of damage and destruction to trees, shrubs and plants that, only now that the snow is melting, superintendents and horticulturists can fully view.

This past winter season has been both welcomed and cursed by superintendents. With such a drought laden summer of 2002, all plants (both turf and shrubs) were thankful and certainly appreciative for the snow and extra moisture. The problem being that the high moisture content of the snow and the thickness of the ice certainly can wreak havoc on trees and shrubs. There are a number of things that should be done at the very beginning of the growing season in order to ensure that trees, shrubs and plants come through with glorious colours. The most important thing that can be done is a comprehensive check and inventory of all plants and trees on the golf course. This will allow for documentation of any snow plowed/crushed plant material and identify any broken or damaged limbs. The importance of this is that as well as identifying any shrubs that might need replacing or extra attention, it allows safety hazards to be recognized. Since broken and damaged trees present safety hazards both to members and staff as well, it is important to address these issues right away before the course opens for the season.

With the amount of ice and very cold temperatures that hit most of

Ontario, superintendents will be scrutinizing and surveying the golf course very closely on their first tours of the season. This is an ideal time to take note of the trees and document any damage. Since it is the trees, shrubs and hills that provide the background scenery for the golf course, it is crucial to maintain and ensure the healthiness of them. For without that big red oak in the landing area of hole number 14, the hole just doesn't play the same. In other words, it is cheaper and far more beneficial to maintain the back drop than to have to replace it!! Besides, it is probably easier to ask for a lesser amount of money from the Board of Directors to trim some damaged trees than have to replace them!!



Because trees and shrubs are living plants, just like turf, both react very similar when in situations of stress. Consequently, a tree that is under stress because of damaged or broken limbs, is far more susceptible to disease or pests than a healthy one. That area of stress on the tree or shrub could be just the opening needed to invite unwanted pests to stay for a while. So, it is much more straightforward to maintain a healthy balance within the plant rather than trying to undo something that with a little extra care and time, could have been prevented or at the very least, minimized.

The gardens along the main driveway and surrounding the clubhouse probably also took a hit from the salt damage coupled with huge piles of snow that were plowed into them. By having the

horticulturist examine the gardens in early spring, time and money could be saved by ensuring a proper and thorough review and diagnosis of any problems and concerns. Simple but effective horticulturist strategies such as an earlier and/or more aggressive fertilizer program may be put into place to prevent any long term effects from the horrendous weather received. Likewise, maybe an aggressive pruning program could be the key to pulling the weakened plants through. Another key planning tool that has resulted from this winter season is that it might change how gardens are planned and implemented. Meaning that perhaps the new plans for the brand new front entrance gardens need to be moved a few more feet in from the road to provide an area for the snow piles to sit rather than having the gardens plowed!!

Let's face it – the winter season of 2002/3 has left its legacy of ice build-up, extreme cold temperatures and mounds of snow behind. While the superintendents are going to be

diligently working to ensure a full recovery for the turf, let's not forget the surrounding aesthetics that provide the beautiful back drop for the golf course. Suffice to say that the trees, shrubs and gardens are in need of some attention too this



spring because just like turf, it is more beneficial to keep a plant healthy than to try to restore it back to health.



# Spring Into Gardening

## Natural areas on the golf course

Article and photos by Victor Lewicki.

Head Horticulturalist, Thornhill Country Club



It is quite obvious that a new trend in the Canadian golf industry is taking all by surprise. Wildflowers and ornamental grasses invade vast green spaces of golf courses. Like brush fire they move quickly into the slopes, water edges, roughs and all the areas out of play. The colourful display of flowers and grasses are like icing on the cake but behind the aesthetical beauty these natural areas play an even more important role in the golf course ecosystem.



When I was hired by Thornhill Country Club Superintendent, Keith Bartlett, I was told that display gardens around the clubhouse need "a face lift" and that some perennials and ornamental grasses should be introduced to "the difficult areas" on the course. These "difficult areas" turn out to be huge spaces where mowing was difficult, slow and dangerous. After seven seasons there are only three out of eighteen holes where no gardens or naturalized areas are installed. All these areas are self-sustainable. No man made

fertilizers, herbicides or pesticides are ever used there. Naturalized areas are more difficult to establish than most of us would ever think. The first obstacle is usually members' deep-rooted fear of any change to their golf course. Therefore education and small demonstration areas are the first things to do. Monthly articles in club newsletters should advise, explain and guide members through the new projects. The second difficulty in achieving success on vast areas is usually serious lack of funds for large-scale projects that do not involve sod, in any form. The best way to go is self-sustainability. All naturalized areas in Thornhill

Country Club are planted with plants that were produced on site, either from seeds or by divisions. Small demonstration areas, mentioned above, play a double

role as educational grounds and nurseries where seeds are collected and plants divided for future expansions. It takes usually 1-2 years for plants grown from seeds to be established and ready to be planted on the golf course. This way, we have arrived to the third hindrance to our success – it is time needed not only to produce new small plants for expansions but also for these new naturalized areas to mature (usually it takes 2-3 years). The fourth problem is usually lack of manpower dedicated to gardens. Luckily, if the first three obstacles are conquered, there is a great chance that not only



members but also greens department staff are on the horticulturist side and are more than willing, with the blessing of the Superintendent, to break the monotony of daily routine of cutting greens, tees or roughs and help plant and maintain these naturalized

areas. There are, of course, a few more hurdles on the way to wildflower meadows or prairie gardens (nutrients reach soils being the most difficult to overcome) but none of them are serious

enough to derail those committed to the new way of taking care of our environment and ourselves. More native plants mean more colour in our life, more wildlife and more balance in our ecosystem. It also means less chemical intervention into the earthly matters, and is it not a new game that we should play also on the golf courses nowadays? So let's plant native plants; flower power is back.





## Off the fairway ... Self-reliant specimen plants



by Daisy Moore

The weather has been dreadful this spring and has delayed the ability to get excited about gardening. Hopefully, conditions have changed since writing this and the snow and ice

have melted.

In the spring, as you anxiously watch the grass grow, surrounding areas will be revealed that need something. Tee sites, woodland edges, fences and other out of play areas are a few examples of places where showy plants would be an asset. It is especially good when they are self-reliant plants, requiring little or no care from you.

Clumps of perennial sunflowers at the end of the lane, banks of lilacs, colonies of red-twigged dogwood, bloodroot lined ditches or rushes in a wetland all conjure up positive images of our local landscape. On the golf course, there are many opportunities to have this impact by choosing the right plant for the location. When you understand the site, you can match the habitat with the plants that like to grow there. I have made a list for you to consider including in your horticultural plan. Many of the plants I am suggesting are native or indigenous to southern Ontario. From my experience, native plants perform the best in low maintenance situations and prefer it when you just leave them alone.

### For Sunny sites:

**Grey-headed coneflower** *Ratibida pinnata* is one of the many large, yellow flowering daisy-like plants that I love. Mexican hat *Ratibida columnifera*, Black-eyed Susan *Rudbeckia hirta*, Cup plant *Silphium perfoliatum*, and perennial sunflowers are the workhorses in my garden through the dryness of summer. As long as you don't fuss with them, they'll do okay in the hot, dry sun. These are all indigenous to southern Ontario.



**The Beauty Bush** *Kolkwitzia amabilis* will grow to be a substantial and shapely deciduous shrub over 12 feet in height with more than an 8 foot spread. It has arching stems which are loaded with blossoms, just after the lilacs have finished, and is heavily scented. It was introduced from China in 1901 and grows happily in southern Ontario without any serious pest problems.

### The perennials *Echinacea* and *Bergamot Monarda*

grow very well together. They can form a colourful bank 3 to 5 feet in height, through the summer and early fall. Black-eyed Susan *Rudbeckia* and Indian grass *Sorghastrum nutans* are two other plants which would extend the show of this bed through the fall. The *Monarda* is a mint so will need moisture in the spring to get started and may need watering during severe drought periods. The *Echinacea* should propagate itself by seed, as will the Indian grass and *Rudbeckia*. They seed themselves in the fall and germinate in late spring so prefer limited cultivation. All of these plants are indigenous to southern Ontario

### For Woodland Edges or Shady sites:

**Snakeroot** *Cimicifuga* is an amazing plant for a woodland edge. It sends out several five foot flower stalks and tops them with a spike of white flowers. It lingers through the spring and early summer. Like all woodland plants, snakeroot likes an organic soil, like in the woods, and their roots protected from direct sun. Leaf mulch or composted leaf clippings would be beneficial here. Indigenous to southern Ontario.



**Great Blue Lobelia** *Lobelia siphilitica* will burst into flower in August. The flowers are on a stalk which can be as tall as 3 ? feet (100cm) and are a beautiful blue. Blue is always good in the garden. There is a subtle spot of yellow in the throats of the flowers, making them even better. They prefer moist woodlands but do adapt to drier conditions. They seed themselves readily and form an attractive colony. They are indigenous to southern Ontario.



### Climbers:

#### Hops

**Humulus lupulus** is a herbaceous, twining vine that can produce upwards to six trailing stems, called poles, as long as 18 feet. It reaches its full potential in its third year. The flowers are shaggy cone-like clusters of lime green, maturing to bronze. It makes a great conversation piece, especially if you grow barley around it. You have the makings of beer! I prefer hops to grapes as a climber to cover an arbour, trellis or fence because it makes an attractive show all year long and isn't prone to mites. The leaves are tight together, the stalk is spiny and interesting and the flowers are truly a treat to see. It is a native of Britain and seems to have no major pests.

**Clematis tangutica** is a small-flowered clematis, littered with yellow blossoms and followed by fluffy masses of seed-heads. It provides an ideal cover on chain-link fences and tends to grow horizontally as well as vertically. Every now and then I will shave it back a bit, since the flowers form on new growth. It is native to Western China but easily makes its' home in southern Ontario.

If you need help deciding what plants to use or where to get them, you can contact me at [daisy@daisymoore.com](mailto:daisy@daisymoore.com) or look at my website for tips [www.daisymoore.com](http://www.daisymoore.com)





# Golf Course Cup Visits Mexico

by Sean DeSilva

The Mexican Free Press

As any proud Canadian would know, it is a long standing tradition that each member of a Stanley Cup winning team gets personal possession of the cup for a certain length of time, following the cup winning season. In respect to this tradition, four members of the 2003 Golf Course Challenge Championship Team, *The Georgian Bay Storm*, decided to start a tradition of their own and take the Golf course



Cup to Mexico for seven fun filled days of "professional" development (it's all a matter of opinion).

The cup was securely placed inside of its armored carrying case (a newspaper filled hockey bag) bearing the sticker "fragile". After further investigation it was found that "fragile" in Mexican means "kick me!" After a lengthy press conference and autograph session in a Mexican customs office the bruised and battered cup, and its four proud possessors, made it to their final destination on Cancun's beautiful, sunny coast.

Both, bikini clad women and proud Canadians alike, reveled in the glory, taking pictures and rolling around in the sand with the golf course cup and its champions. It may have also been one to many Cervezas, Tequilas, and Alphonso 13"s, eh!



In preparation for its long journey home, the Cup was once again placed inside of its armored carrying case bearing the words "fragile" (kick me!). Not to worry J.T., the cup is currently having major reconstructive surgery, being built stronger than ever, and will be returned to its glory, in preparations for its new adventure at the end of next year's tournament.

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## Men with Brooms

by Dean Baker, Superintendent  
North Halton Golf & Country Club

A very social afternoon was spent at the North Halton Golf and Country Club for the annual O.G.S.A. Curling Day. To take away the March blues, 8 full teams went out on the ice to compete.

The theme of this year, for the most part, was "bring your own team." As teams are usually picked by the volunteering skips, Bob Cowan



(Royal Woodbine), Graydon Goff, and Icemaker Mitch Jewell from North Halton all brought their respective teams. Did it make any difference getting closer to victory? None at all. It was the very unassuming who were very successful at this event!!! Chris Dew (The National) took home top prize. Chris' team consisted of Dave Kuypers (Toronto Golf), Neil Tandan (Weston Golf), and Nigel Rennie (Multitynes). The Dew team defeated both of their opponents sparingly, without mustering up too much of a sweat! Congratulations!


Other highlights included coming out of the hack techniques by long time successful curler and Superintendent, Rhod Trainer. Dean Baker was also sighted running



around trying to be the perfect host and digging up enough prizes for all who attended. Thank you to all our suppliers for donating prizes, and to all who attended for making it such a great day.

All the best to everyone in the upcoming season.

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# On the road again

by Angelo Capannelli  
Hutcheson Sand and Mixes

It was the last *Green is Beautiful* editorial committee meeting that I was at, just before Christmas I believe, when this idea came to me. The idea is an article on a regular basis to appear in *Green is Beautiful*, about the life of the golf course salesperson. Hey, why not I say? We have regular features from "Cyber Super" and "Off the fairway" and let us not forget the insightful and thought provoking articles of "Turf or consequences". Why not articles written from our associate members about their experiences on the road? It doesn't sound like a bad idea? I think in the words of Jeff Stauffer our editor at the time, "Let us give it a try". As long as it is done tastefully and within context it is worth a shot".

This idea is not born from imagination or creativity but mostly from the lack of it, so therefore a little history is required. About 15 years ago, or maybe longer, I am hoping that Gord Witteveen can remind me of how many

years ago it really has been, his daughter, Anne took a job with Nutrite Fertilizers. I believe one of her first jobs after graduating from University of Guelph was a technical salesperson for this company. She would travel within a specified territory selling fertilizers to the golf courses and in amongst her travels she would encounter rather unique experiences. Anne would compile these experiences in her journal and once a year she would submit them in the form of, "The Best, According to Anne" (I'm sure she had a better name for it) to *Green is Beautiful*, for publication. Certain golf courses would be recognized, in the eyes of Anne, for outstanding achievement. For example, the golf course that would make the best cup of coffee, or another good one was, the friendliest dog award. My personal favourite was the golf course with the neatest and cleanest maintenance facility. If memory serves me correctly, I believe Anne gave her

distinguished best humanitarian deed award to a golf course that fixed her flat tire. This is the kind of stuff that salespeople think about as they stare out the windshield of their vehicles enroute to their next sales call. They do this day-to-day, week-to-week and month-to-month, during the golf season until the trade shows start; then the real fun begins, right Marty Kopp??

So as the golf season is upon us for 2003, and the winter blahs hopefully are behind us, let us think about green and healthy turf, nicely raked bunkers and great weather for all of us to enjoy. Let us also think even if it is for a short moment about the sales person who is coming to your golf course to take your order, lend some expertise or share with you a good story or two. Who knows, maybe at the end of the year, you will be recognized by the "On the road again" selection committee, to be the best of.....

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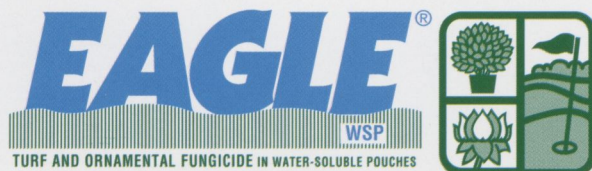




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# Turf or consequences

by Doug Breen, Superintendent  
Conestoga Golf Course

I have to buy another truck. I would rather have my eyelids sewn to my butt than go through the process of buying a vehicle, but alas, I must. It is a well known fact that all car salesman are thieves, cutthroats, and Habs fans. In another time they'd have certainly been pirates or highway robbers or worse. You remember that bounty hunter in Star Wars - Boba Fett? Used car salesman. He worked in a Hyundai dealership on Rigel 7 for ten years. He was very successful too; what with that whole, 'buy this car or I'll freeze you in liquid carbon and take you to Lord Vader' routine.

It has to be a truck too. I'm a golf Superintendent for Pete's sake. It was ordained by the golf gods long ago and laid down in songs and stories many generations before us, that all superintendents *must* drive trucks, and who am I to argue? At least that's what I'm telling my wife. The truth is, I'm far too insecure to be seen in public driving anything else.

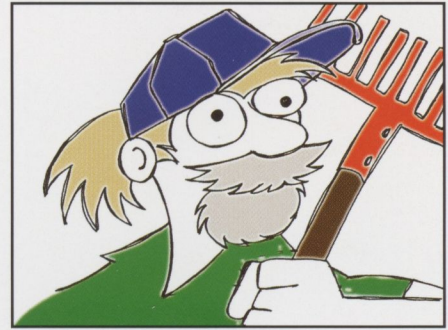
What if the other guys see me in a Neon, while they're driving three quarter ton lumber trucks with eight million horse diesel engines. They'll think I'm, you know, poorly endowed. I need a truck for exactly the same reason I needed acid wash jeans and feathered hair in high school - I'm not popular enough to be different.

And Krista will be thankful we've got that truck too, when we need the full sized box and 7200 lbs. of towing capacity to go to the video rental store or pick up a pizza. That reminds me. I'll need to get a box liner to protect the bed in case she accidentally puts something in the back of it. Scratches don't look any cooler than my pink parachute pants did in 1985.

What's bugging me the most, is that I already have a truck with only 250,000 kms. on it, but the engine is already shot and the mechanics all say it's "game over." It really is a shame that North American car engineers can't design a vehicle which a buyer can reasonably expect to survive it's third payment, and 250,000 kms. is only about 150,000 miles. If my dad had spent thirty grand on a truck that was junk that soon, he'd have driven it through the front window of the dealership and throttled the guy that sold it to him. As a matter of fact, he would have gone right past the salesman to the 'man behind the curtain'; you know the guy I'm talking about, 'the boss' who hides somewhere in the bowels of the dealership and has to approve all deals.

I wish John Deere would build a car, or Jacobsen, or any of the turf equipment companies, for that matter. Sure, they have their engineering foibles too, but there have been a lot more Edsels and Volares out of Detroit. I have turf equipment that we use everyday that is older than I am. My truck was bought when my daughter was born, and it won't be around to take her to her first day of school. Please, somebody build something as indestructible as a GM3 that I can drive on the road.

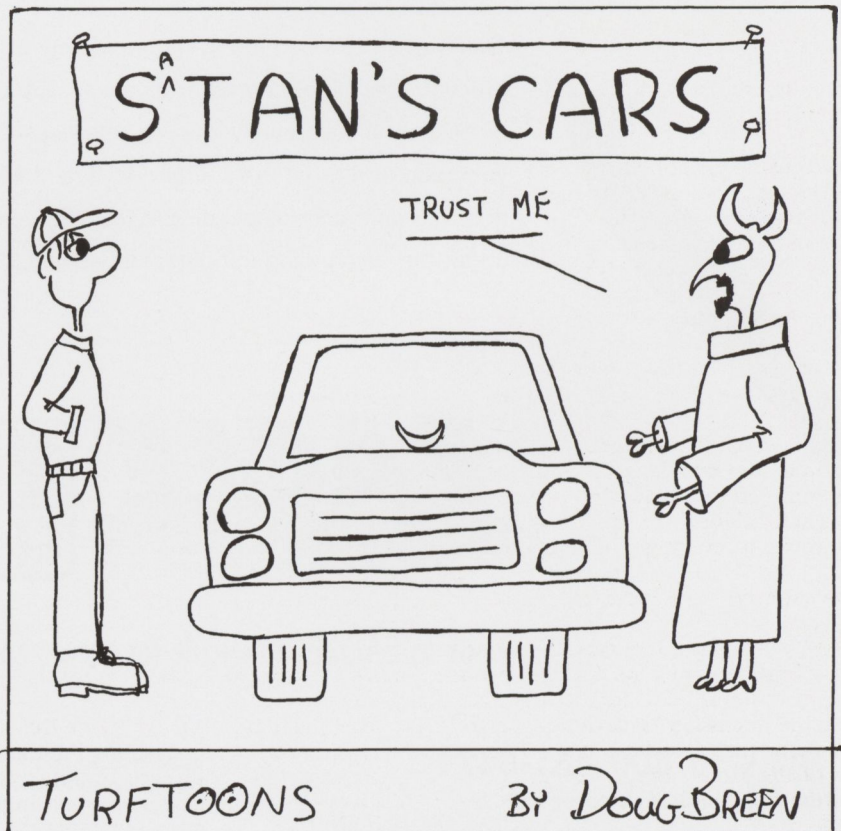
How have we become so docile, that it is now seen as perfectly acceptable for; the gearshift knob to fall off in your hand, the gears in the door window to strip, the brake warning light to be on for weeks at a time without anyone from the dealership able to come up with a better suggestion than 'put a little tape over it', and the dome light to be stuck on so often that the fuse is in the ashtray unless I need the windshield wipers. Yup, they're on the same fuse, and whenever it rains, I have to put up with the light and the door ajar dinger. Magically this only happens between -3 and +3 Celsius, so when I take it to the shop everything works fine.



The truck is apparently invisible to other cars, and as a result has been to the body shop four times. The thing's been in three accidents when it was parked. The tailgate was stolen. The parking brake sticks on. The back seat is suitable only for small children and hobbits. I now see that it's clearly cursed. There must be someone who I spurned in high school, who I made fun of or didn't ask to the prom or something, who has festered a growing hatred of me and turned to the black arts. I'm sure that somewhere, this evil witch has made a little Voodoo F150 and is randomly pulling things off of it and whaling on it with a fireplace poker.

So what did Boba Fett at the dealership have to say? "I don't build them, I just sell them", offering me a lower trade in value than what I still owe on it, and threatening to take me to Darth Vader, who I now believe is the big boss behind the curtain.

*It would explain a lot.*





# Looking back

## 30 years ago today

by Barry Endicott

The directors of the O.G.S.A in 1973 were Jim Wyllie (Pres.), Bob Heron (Vice Pres.), Ross Haines (Sec.), Paul Dermott (Tres.), Al Beeney, Ed Charman, Roy French, Bob Hall, Whitey Jones, John Stoughton, and Bill Hynd (Past Pres.).

The 3rd Annual Turf Symposium was held on January 4th at Northwood G. C. Keith Nesbit, president of the O.G.A., and Dr. Jack Eggens, University of Guelph professor, chaired the sessions. Dennis Pellrene (Glen Abbey), Leslie Kelly (Royal Ottawa), Bob Moote (Oakdale), George Darou (Richmond Hill), Bob Heron (Markland Wood), Cameron Cairncross (Foxwood), Dave Moote (Essex), Al Beeney (North Halton), Rusty Warkman (Stratford), Charles Behm (Cherry Hills), Barret Muir (Shanty Bay), Ross Haines (Brampton), Robert Lamb (Summit), Bob Hall (Toronto Ladies), John Piccolo (St. Catharines), Paul Scenna (Galt) and Gord Witteveen (Northwood) kept everybody informed on the latest developments

in turfgrass maintenance.

Paul White, Superintendent at Kanawaki Golf Club in Montreal, moved to Glendale G. C. Cameron Cairncross was a successful applicant for the head position at the Summit G.C. Rusty Warkman, from Stratford G. C., accepted the position of Superintendent at Oshawa G. C. Gord Witteveen and Bob Hall accepted new positions at the Board of Trade G. C. and Toronto Ladies G.C. respectively.

Ron Allen and Bob French were recipients of scholarships from the Turf Managers Short Course.

Gord Witteveen was elected director of the GCSAA at the annual meeting held in Boston Mass. Art Dodson, Dave Gourlay and Jim Wyllie became GCSAA certified Superintendents. The RCGA Turfgrass Conference was held in Montreal on March 4th-8th. Dave Gourlay was elected president of the CGSA at the annual meeting.

New member applications were received by Ray Grinikis (Pleasant Valley G. C.) and Ken Nelson (Sunningdale G C). Morley Findlay of

the London Hunt passed away from a heart attack following an operation. Tom Lewis, of Kawartha, received the 25-year award of a lapel pin from the GCSAA. Charlie Muylaert was busy with the new construction on the old Pine Valley Golf Course. The new course will be called the PGA National. Glen Abbey, in Oakville, was rumoured in the papers to have been purchased by the Skyline Hotel and Jack Nicklaus was hired to redesign the complete golf course.

The Greens Chairman/Superintendent Tournament was held on July 20th at the Brampton G. C. The team of Paul Scenna and Sandy Forbes (greens chairman) earned the top honors for the day. The Pro/Superintendent Tournament was held on August 31 at Markland Wood. Low gross Super was Jack Harris from Ancaster G. C. and low pro was Bobby Brean from Beverley. The low gross team was Bill Bowen and his pro from Peterborough G. C. and the low net team was Paul Dermott and Pro Jim McKitterick from Islington Golf Club.

## Article Reprinted from March 1973 Green is Beautiful

By Jim Wyllie

The educational circuit is drawing to a close for another winter and has definitely been one of the most interesting ever. I would just like to dwell on a few of the items discussed this past winter at our turf conferences and symposiums.

One of the most interesting was the talk given by Dr. Jim Beard on "Poa, to keep or to kill". Myself, I learned two important things, one that there is at least two strains of Poa, an annual and a stolon type perennial, so maybe some of us should take a close look at that so-called bent grass we are growing. He discussed the merits of the Calcium Arsenate Program and the feeling I received was that it is far from being successful. He also mentioned that poa thrives at a height of 1", which I think is a big surprise to everyone. The control of poa still seems to go back to the old answer, your watering and sensible fertilizer programs.

We have talked about research in Canada as to turf until we are blue in the face, but the most underrated subject came up during the discussion "The Golfer and the Superintendent". Mr. Jean Morie Payette, super of the Mount Bruno Country Club, asked the question, "Why do we still have

the steel type golf spikes." This question is probably a multi-million dollar subject and is possibly an area where some of our research dollars should be spent. Think for a moment how much your maintenance dollars could be reduced if the steel spike was eliminated, for example, decking on bridges and verandahs, the number of times a reel on your greensmowers have been ruined, scuff marks on greens, golf carts scratched, benches ruined and, last but not least, the floor coverings in Pro shops and Clubhouses.

Mr. Clifford Wagoner, President of the GCSAA, made the comment that our whole reputation is placed on an area one foot square. This is so true. How many times have you had your courses in just super condition for a tournament and the comment in the newspaper the next day was that Joe Blow lost the Tournament because his ball was in a bad lie on the fifteenth fairway, but there was no comment on the condition of the other 165 acres involved?

The point from all of this is that too many times we say to ourselves, I think that I will miss this conference or symposium because there is nothing new or exciting on

such a program. That is the biggest mistake you can ever make, because a conference is only as exciting and informative as you make it. Do not be embarrassed by asking a question of these speakers, no one will laugh at you, but with you, for inquiring of a relatively simple question.

I asked Dr. Beard something that I am sure was on the minds of everyone, from Southern Ontario, "What could we expect turf-wise this spring after such an erratic winter?" He informed me that I should take some plugs and place them in my greenhouse and if they did not start to grow, that now is the time to inform my membership of what to expect this spring. Everyone in the room laughed at my question but, at the time of writing this, I feel confident from watching these plugs that my course should be off to a good start, along with three other supers who have placed samples from their courses in my greenhouse.

So, in closing, if you only pick one idea or innovation from these so-called poor conferences that will help you become a more professional Superintendent it is well worth the money and time spent.





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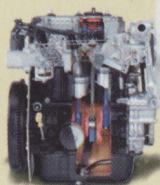
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