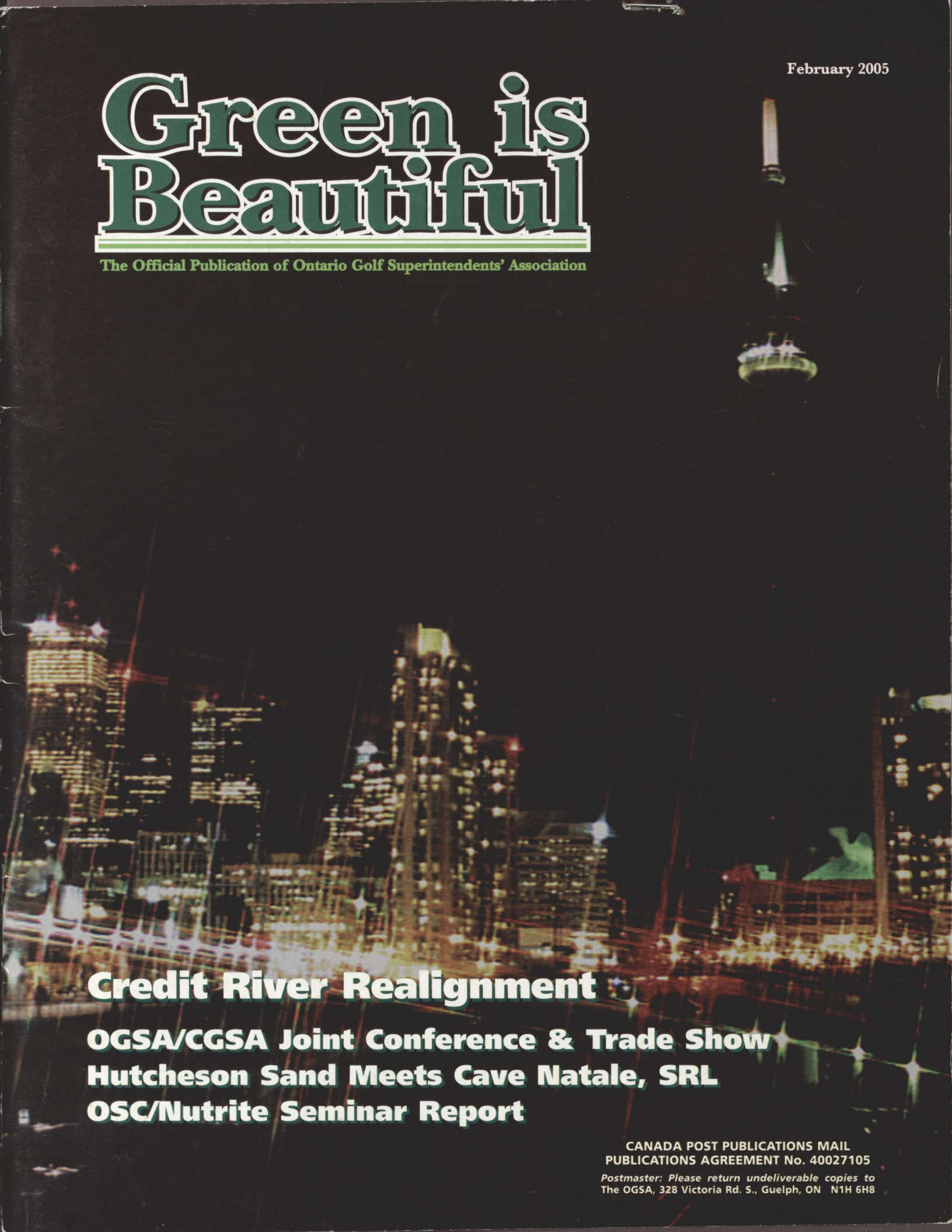


February 2005

Green is Beautiful

The Official Publication of Ontario Golf Superintendents' Association



Credit River Realignment
OGSA/CGSA Joint Conference & Trade Show
Hutcheson Sand Meets Cave Natale, SRL
OSC/Nutrite Seminar Report

CANADA POST PUBLICATIONS MAIL
PUBLICATIONS AGREEMENT No. 40027105

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

Contents

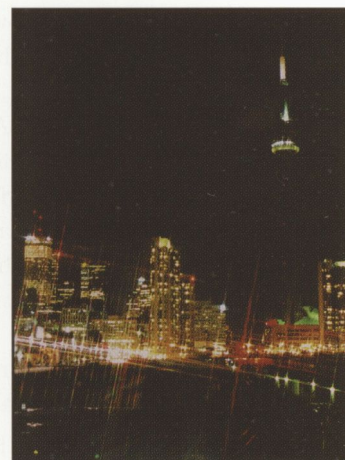
Credit River Realignment	16
Above the hold	25
Cyber super	7
Editor's message	4
Getting the most out of your employees	31
Georgian Bay Golf Superintendents Association	23
Golf course highlight - Mississauga Golf & CC	15
Health & safety	6
Hutcheson Sand meets Cave Natale, SRL	28
Looking back	31
Member profile: Interview with Bob Hutcheson	14
Off the fairway	27
OSC/Nutrite Seminar Report	20
OGSA/CGSA Joint Conference	8
On the road again	25
President's message	3
Turf or consequences	30
What's new	26

Advertisers

All Turf Ltd.	23
Almack Agronomic Services Inc	21
Bartlett Tree Experts	23
Bayer Environmental Science "Aliette"	5
Bayer Environmental Science "Compass"	19
Bayer Environmental Science "Merit"	24
Braemar Building Systems	13
Burnside Golf Services	4
DCS Agronomic Services	22
G.C. Duke Equipment Ltd.	13
Maple Turf Supply	3,21
Master's Turf Supply Ltd.	30
NuGro Corporation	22
NuGro "Select"	11
Ontario Seed Company	6
Skyway Lawn Equipment Limited	30
Syngenta "Heritage"	12
Syngenta "Subdue Maxx"	7
The P.E.S.T. Institute	4
Turf Care Products Canada - Irrigation	22
Turf Care Products Canada	32
United Agri Products	22
Vanden Bussche Irrigation and Equipment Ltd.	29
Zander Sod Co. Limited	6

Green is Beautiful

The Official Publication of Ontario Golf Superintendents' Association



COVER PICTURE

**OGSA/CGSA Joint
Conference, A Toronto View**
photo by John Bladon, Nu-Gro Corporation

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

President's message

After a very successful joint conference and trade show, we hope you were all able to take advantage of the various resources and educational sessions offered. This was the first partnered show in Ontario, put forth by the OGSA in conjunction with the CGSA, and we are pleased with the results.

During this time, the OGSA also benefited from participating in an information sharing session with another great resource, the GCSAA. OGSA executives met with the GCSAA board of directors to discuss current challenges, including the management of golf course properties with the increase of environmental pressures and scrutiny. It was a great reminder of the services, from south of the border, that are offered to us, as one of the founding chapters of the GCSAA. Conversely, the GCSAA was thoroughly impressed with our association and interested in learning more about the IPM accreditation program in Ontario, which was articulately presented by OGSA Secretary, Jeff Stauffer. We are not unique in the challenges we face, as municipalities across North America are beginning to face similar pressures regarding IPM. We all need to maintain a proactive frame of mind regarding our attitudes and approaches toward managing our respective green spaces. I encourage everyone to enter the OGSA's IPM accreditation program and other initiatives like the Audubon Sanctuary Program, as well as adopting simple policies such as the planting of only native plant material on your golf course property.

Winter is an excellent time to "recharge the batteries" and give thought to the evolution of your management philosophies.



by Paul Scenna
Donalda Club



ONTARIO GOLF SUPERINTENDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Guelph Turfgrass Institute
328 Victoria Road South
Guelph, ON N1H 6H8

Ph: 519-767-3341
Toll Free: 877-824-6472
Fax: 519-766-1704
Email: ogsa@gti.uoguelph.ca
Website: www.golfsupers.on.ca

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President :	Paul Scenna
Past President:	Rob Ackermann
Vice-President:	Bob Burrows
Treasurer:	Sean DeSilva
Secretary:	Jeff Stauffer
DIRECTORS	Jeff Alexander
	Chris Andrejicka
	Jarrod Barakett
	Randy Booker
	Doug Breen
	Trevor Clapperton
	Rob Gatto

OFFICE
ADMINISTRATOR Dorothy Hills
Pat Thomas
Deborah Badger



Professional Products

Brett Murray
Technical Sales

Maple Turf Supply
8112 King Rd. W.
P.O. Box 370
Bolton, Ontario
L7E 5T3

Business: (905) 857-2000
Fax: (905) 857-8215
Mobile: (416) 580-8112
1-800-268-4425

"Green is Beautiful"
is Printed on
Recycled Paper



Layout, Design & Printing provided by...

**G·R·A·P·H·I·C
SERVICES**
PRINTERS & LITHOGRAPHERS

"Quality you can See!"

Tel: 519.763.5745 • Fax: 519.763.9532
32-34 Essex Street • Guelph, Ontario • N1H 3K8
e-mail: info@graphicservices.ca • www.graphicservices.ca

GREEN IS BEAUTIFUL EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

John Bladon, Editor
Dorothy Hills, Coordinating Manager
Greig Barker
Angelo Capannelli
Jason Hanna
Brian Haum
Scott Horsburgh
Mark Prieur
Kevin Falls
Bill Green
Scott Sleep
Jeff Stauffer

Green is Beautiful 2005

Although every effort is made to check material for publication, the association is not responsible for material published on behalf of its contributors.

All rights are reserved by the publisher and any reproduction in whole or part without the written permission of the publisher is prohibited.

Editor's message



by John Bladon
Nu-Gro Corporation

Well, 2005 is here and with the craziest of weather; 13 degrees one day and snow and sub zero temperatures the next.

The joint OGSA/CGSA Conference is in the books and ought to be deemed a success from all standpoints. If you were unable to attend, Green is Beautiful is pleased to present a summary of conference highlights. Also contained in this issue, a fine submission from Colin White of Mississauga on renovations done at the club along the banks of the Credit River. This month's Member Profile is of longtime industry contributor Bob Hutcheson of Hutcheson Sand and Mixes.

On both a personal and an industry note, I also would like to recognize the recent anniversary of member Richard Creed. Richard spent 35 years at the Cutten Club in Guelph. With the club's proximity to the university, Richard has taken nearly every turfgrass management student in history on a tour of the Cutten's grounds and has mentored many of us in the industry, including yours truly. In fact, the list of superintendents, assistants and associates he has influenced is far too long to mention. Many thanks Rich!

THE P.E.S.T. INSTITUTE

SPECIALIZING IN PESTICIDE EDUCATION
& SERVICE TECHNOLOGY

LAND EXTERMINATOR (LANDSCAPE CATEGORY)

PESTICIDE CERTIFICATION COURSES

March (London).....	7 - 11, 2005
March	14 - 18, 2005
March (Ottawa)	21 - 25, 2005
April	4 - 8, 2005
December.....	5 - 9, 2005
February.....	6 - 10, 2006

WATER EXTERMINATOR (MOSQUITO/BITING FLY)

April	11 - 15, 2005
February	13 - 17, 2006

All courses held in North York except where noted

Gov't exam held on Monday following each course.

Instructor: Paul G. Pilley, B.Sc., M. P. M.

For more information and a brochure contact:

P.O. Box 1021 Lindsay, Ontario K9V 5N4

E-mail: ppilley@cogeco.ca

Tel: (705) 324-PEST (7378) Fax: (705) 324-9729



BURNSIDE

Serving the Needs of the Golf Industry

We can help with:

- Approvals for Golf Course Development and Operations
- Irrigation Water Supply
- Sewage Treatment and Disposal
- Environmental Management Plans
- Building and Clubhouse Design Services
- Irrigation Design and Consulting
- Environmental Impact Assessment
- Drinking Water Assessment

Toll Free: (877) 799-8499

E-mail: vcirone@rjburnside.com

Website: www.rjburnside.com



Offices located throughout Ontario

Members of OGSA, CGSA and Golfmax Suppliers to the NGCOA



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

Matthew Booth	Class F
Cherry Downs Golf Course	
Marcus Boutilier	Class B
Westbrook Golf Club	
Jamie Camilucci	Class A
Forest Ridge Golf Club	
Mark Conrad	Class S
Victoria Park Golf Club East	
Steve Doyle	Class C
Erie Shores Golf Club	
Roy Duarte	Class F
Galt Country Club	
Joseph DiFlorio	Class F
National Golf Club of Canada	
Jeff Elmquist	Class B
Glen Ridge Golf Course	
Matthew Hellas	Class C
Renfrew Golf Club	
Stephen Holmes	Class F
National Golf Club of Canada	
Dan Kilpatrick	Class C
Baltusrol Golf Club	
Michael Knapp	Class S
Harbour View Golf & CC	
Timothy Lenko	Class F
National Golf Club of Canada	
Eric Lyons	Class D
University of Guelph	
Michael Morra	Class F
Oslerbrook Golf & CC	
Jeff Nazzer	Class S
Cedar Brae Golf & CC	
Nick Ovington	Class C
Sunningdale Golf & CC	
Corey Phillips	Class C
Canadian Golf Club	
Garnet Prydie	Class C
Sunningdale Golf & CC	
Jason Sewell	Class B
Victoria Park Golf Club West	
Terry Tucker	Class F
Galt Country Club	
Wood-Gaines Tree Service	
Class E	
Andrew Wood-Gaines	

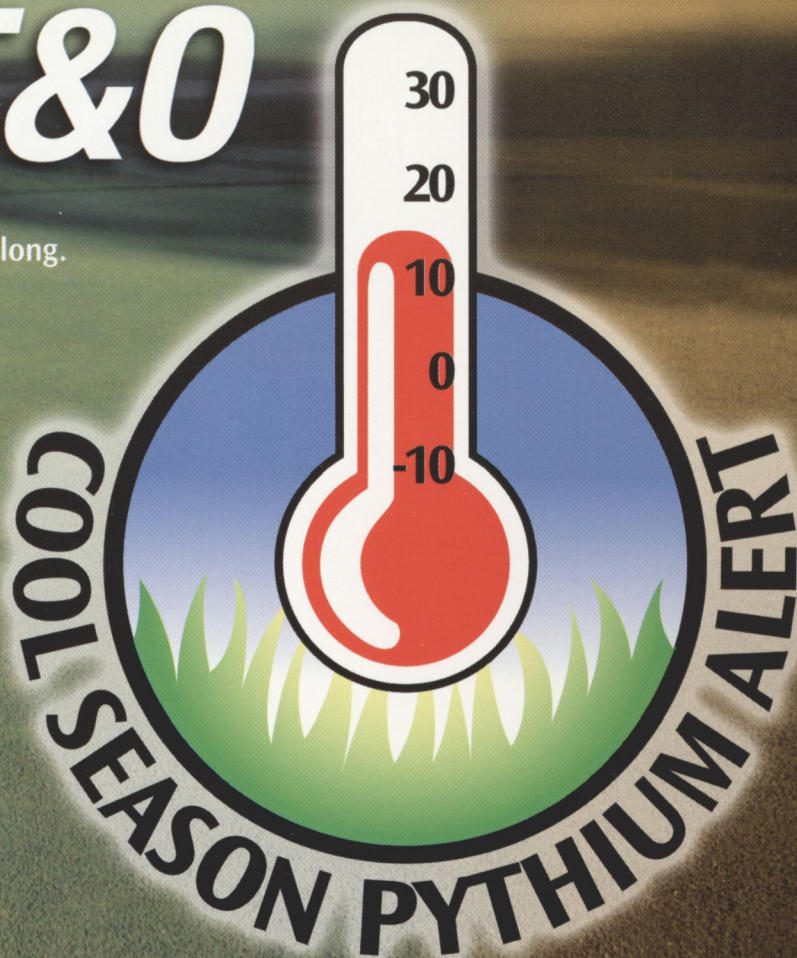


Bayer Environmental Science

Aliette® T&O

FUNGICIDE

Protecting your turf from Pythium all year long.



Ever have those areas where no matter what you've tried the best alternative seems to be rip it up and start over. If turf is slow to come out of dormancy or does not respond to your usual management practices, Cool Season Pythium could be the culprit. The solution is Aliette T&O...apply and watch your problem areas green-up and grow.

Aliette® T&O

FUNGICIDE

Fighting Pythium at the root

For more information contact Bayer Environmental Science
www.bayeres.ca 1-888-283-6847

Quebec: 514-949-2467 • Ontario/Western Canada: 905-464-8399
Ontario/Atlantic Canada: 519-239-3983

ALWAYS READ AND FOLLOW LABEL DIRECTIONS. Aliette T&O is a registered trademark of Bayer.

Health & safety

Set Your Standards

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

By the time you read this article you should be well on your way to planning the start up for your golf course. Have you taken Safety into account? Have you reviewed the safety rules for your workplace? This is an ideal time to write down the rules that you want to implement this summer.

Remember, you will probably have quite a number of impressionable young folks coming to work at your facility. This means that it is important to have some clearly defined rules that you should be promoting, even as you hire your workers. The best time to set your standards is during the interview process. If you have clearly defined rules about Safe Work Practices and Personal Protective Equipment, then you should be discussing these issues at the time that you are considering hiring people to work for you.

Consider the scenarios that you might have to deal with, and work out how you would like to see them handled. If you do this before hiring then you will find that the enforcement is much simpler.

If you have a clearly defined rule for the wearing of personal protection equipment (PPE) and you let your prospective workers know what these expectations are then when they come to work there will be no surprises. This is especially true if you have prepared written documentation that you can provide to the new worker. You should discuss the rules and get the new worker to sign off on the

document to ensure that you have a record of your conversation and their signature indicating receipt of the discussed rules.

Every year I get calls concerning the wearing of hard hats and safety glasses and hearing protection. I am often asked; "how can I get my employees to wear the PPE?" "How can I get my employees to follow the safety rules?"

My consistent response is; "What are your rules?" "Are they clearly defined?" "Are you consistently enforcing the rules?" "Do you follow the rules yourself?" "Do you wear the required PPE?" I generally find the answers that come back from the superintendents are, "the PPE is available, but I don't force them to use it." Or, "I don't always wear the PPE myself, but I expect the workers to wear it". Or, "I can't be watching them all the time".

Let me ask you to consider this question. Do you have to watch your workers all the time to ensure that they complete their assigned tasks? Most likely you don't. You assign the tasks and the workers complete the tasks. So as they do their work they must be encouraged to understand that safe work practices are a part of doing the job. Safety equipment and safe work practices are part of the tools that they use to do the job.

It is important to understand that to ensure that you have safe workers you must have clearly defined safety rules and they must be clearly communicated and enforced. You have a duty to ensure that this is done fairly and equitably.

Do it right and have a safe and happy new year!

SAFETAID
Your 1st stop in safety!

T. 519-837-0997 • F. 519-837-1996


OSC
SEEDS

For All Your
Golf Course Needs!

Turf seed, Pesticides, Nutrite Fertilizers
and Bayco Golf Accessories

P.O. Box 7, Waterloo, Ont. N2J 3Z6
Tel: (519) 886-0557 Fax: (519) 886-0605
1-800-465-5849 Email: seeds@oscseeds.com

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


ZANDER
SOD CO. LIMITED

SUPPLIERS OF TOP QUALITY TURF PRODUCTS FOR OVER FORTY YEARS

No. 1 Kentucky Bluegrass
Dense turf with great colour

Five varieties of Bentgrass
Grown on USGA spec. sand or native sand

Extreme Fescue
Drought resistant—ideal for naturalization

Ontario Distributor of Pre-grown


GOLPLA
THE NAME THAT CARRIES WEIGHT

Erosion Control System
Drive on it—Park on it
Without damaging turf

(877) 727-2100
(905) 727-2100
www.zandersod.com

Cyber super



by Mark Prieur, Assistant
Superintendent,
Markland Wood CC

Tradeshaw Recommendations

First of all, I would personally like to congratulate the entire volunteer staff for all their advance planning and hard work to orchestrate possibly one of the best conferences to date, well done to all.

As is the case with every conference, the tradeshow floor does not take a back seat to the seminars provided but complements the learning that can be achieved at such an event. In doing so, many sales representatives saw a huge bull's-eye painted on my chest. Many lay claim to having the best sites going, as often as they claim to have the most revolutionary product on the market. It will still take eons to sift through what is worthy of mentioning in *Cyber super*.

The first installment of the tradeshow highlights is www.nu-groturf.com. This is really a turf professional's website for Nu-Gro's whole family of products. This differs

quite a bit from Nu-Gro's home site where you would find non-technical information about the Nu-Gro Corporation, such as investor relations, and what is on the horizon for the company, as a whole. The site www.nu-groturf.com offers specific technical information, such as material safety data sheets, technical specification sheets that are easy to find and easily printed. Possibly, the most practical feature on the site is the suggested spreader settings. This is a PDF version that contains a spreadsheet with ALL the settings for EVERY spreader, complete with spread swaths and application rates. This saves some calibration time and provides an approximate value for budgeting purposes.

Information on different sources of Nitrogen such as Sulfur Coated Urea and Nitroform technology are explained in layman's terms complete with their practical area of use. This site is definitely worth a visit.

I will be sifting through many more sites in the near future. One can only imagine how many sites will come of the GCSAA tradeshow as well!

RESEARCH | PRODUCTS | PEOPLE | STEWARDSHIP

syngenta



Working overtime
So you don't have to.

Fast-acting and long-lasting, SubdueMAXX® Fungicide quickly takes control of Pythium Root Rot, Pythium Blight and Pythium Damping Off in golf course turf. Featuring Syngenta's exclusive MAXX microemulsion technology, SubdueMAXX® stops disease growth and prevents the development of new disease. With a residual action of up to 21 days, SubdueMAXX® is working all the time, so you don't have to. For more information on SubdueMAXX® call Syngenta at 1-888-368-4211 x327.

Green★Partners™
Part of the Green Partners Program.

Subdue MAXX®
Fungicide

www.syngentaprofessionalproducts.com

Important: Always read and follow label instructions before using this product. ©2003 Syngenta. Syngenta Crop Protection Canada, Inc., Guelph, ON N1G 4Z3
Subdue MAXX® is a registered trademark of a Syngenta Group Company.

OGSA/CGSA JOINT CONFERENCE & TRADE SHOW 2005

by Dorothy Hills

All reports indicate that the OGSA/CGSA inaugural joint conference was an outstanding success. Three days of pre-conference seminars preceded the official opening on the Sunday. Registrants flooded to the opening ceremonies where Brian Williams, entertained us with anecdotes from his career, as a sports commentator. His message "Going for the Gold: Lessons in Greatness from the Olympic Games", depicted the importance of practice, preparation, and flexibility; all components required to thrive in the face of diversity. Marie Thorne, from Syngenta Crop Protection Canada Inc. sponsor for the Education Program, was on hand to present an excerpt from their DVD, "The IPM Approach to Golf Course Management."

Sunday's events were concluded with the President's Welcome Reception, sponsored by Rain Bird International, at the Hockey Hall of Fame. Over 400 registrants enjoyed the refreshments while browsing amongst the hockey treasures and seeing the impressive home of the Stanley Cup. Some even had their picture taken with "The Cup"



Monday saw the opening of the two-day trade show with the ribbon cutting ceremony officiated by OGSA President, Rob Ackermann and CGSA President, Jim Nix. It was a busy day of meeting and greeting, closing with a social hour on the trade show floor.



Many continued the social time by taking in the Monday Night Party, where they were entertained by "Bowser and Blue." This event was sponsored by John Deere Company and John Deere Credit.

Registrants closed the conference with a gala banquet featuring Craig and the Cruisers, sponsored by Jacobsen, a Textron Company.

We look forward to seeing everyone out again next year when the OGSA presents the 2006 Ontario Golf Course Management Conference & Trade Show, to be held at the Sheraton Conference Centre in Toronto from January 4-6th. Watch for information, as details become confirmed, on the home page of our web site www.golfsupers.on.ca.

Trade Show Booth Contest

Judging was secretly conducted on Tuesday, and Booth of The Year Awards were presented. Congratulations go to TDS, Rain Bird and Toro for their booth presentations.



TDS - Single Booth



Rain Bird - Multiple Booths over 100 sq. ft.- 800 sq. ft.



Toro - Multiple Booths over 800 sq. ft.

OGSA held their Annual General Meeting and elected their Board of Directors for 2005. Your executive for 2005 is: Past President, Rob Ackermann; President, Paul Scenna; Vice President, Bob Burrows; Treasurer, Sean DeSilva; Secretary, Jeff Stauffer. Your directors for 2005 are: Jeff Alexander, Chris Andrejicka, Jarrod Barakett, Randy Booker, Doug Breen, Trevor Clapperton and Rob



Gatto.

L-R Back Row: Trevor Clapperton, Jarrod Barakett, Chris Andrejicka, Rob Ackermann, Bob Burrows, Randy Booker, Jeff Alexander

L-R Front Row: Paul Scenna, Sean DeSilva, Doug Breen & Rob Gatto



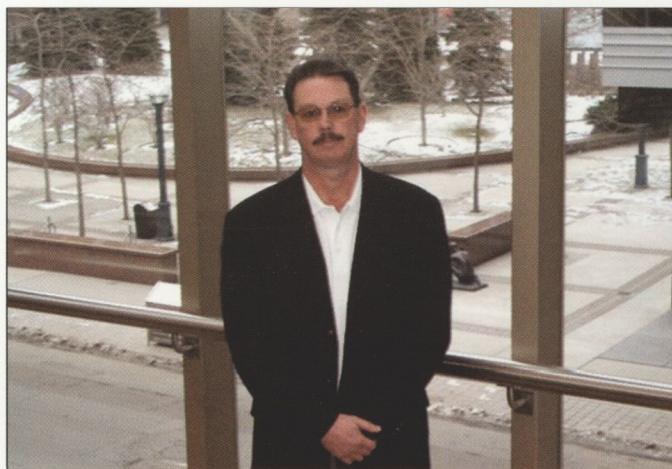
Jeff Stauffer was unavailable for group photo

25 Year Members

This year's 25 year membership awards went to Ted Ellis and Neil Acton.



Ted Ellis, Rob Gatto presenting



Neil Acton

New Member Draw

Again this year we had a draw from all the new member applicants, and their two attestees, who's applications were received between January 1, 2004 and December 31, 2004

The lucky New Member Winner this year was Dan Tonkin, Superintendent at Greenhills Golf Club, in London. Dan's application was attested by Andrew Keffer, Executive Director of Turf Operations, ClubLink and Mike Burton, Superintendent at Heron Point Golf Links, in Hamilton. All three members received an OGSA fleece lined vest.

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.

This year's Heritage Scholarship is awarded to Dianna Brown, the daughter of Paul Brown, who is the superintendent of the Sarnia Golf & Curling Club.

Dianna is currently enrolled in the University of Guelph, majoring in Studio Art with honours. She is working towards becoming an art teacher at the secondary level.

Turfgrass Diploma / Degree Education Award



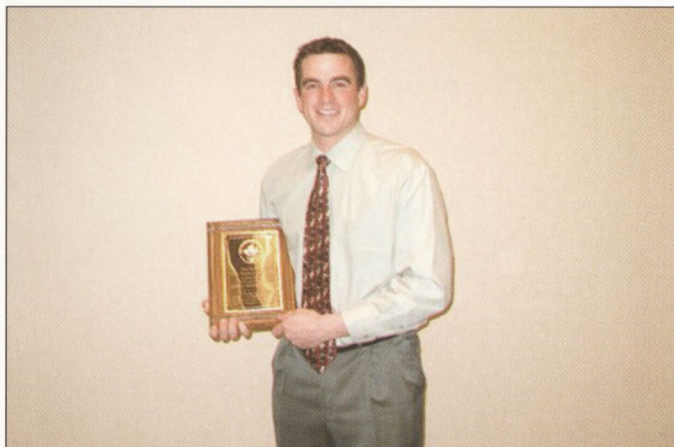
The OGSA has developed this scholarship to recognize scholastic accomplishments and potential leadership in the field of turfgrass management. Students who are Ontario residents and have a career goal of being employed in the golf industry are eligible to apply.

This year's Turfgrass Scholarship is awarded to Jeff Nazzer.

Jeff is a student at the University of Guelph, enrolled in the Associate Diploma program in Turfgrass Management, and employed by the Cedar Brae Golf and

Country Club. Jeff's ultimate goal is to become a golf course superintendent, and continue his education on to a masters degree. Jeff is fascinated by the science behind his chosen profession and says, "My office for the rest of my life is nature, how much better can it get?"

Turfgrass Short Course Award 2004



OGSA congratulations go to Adrian Hodson-Walker, who was the recipient of the University of Guelph Turf Managers' Short Course award, in May of 2004, with the highest overall average of 94%. Adrian, is employed at Kleinburg Golf Club.

3rd 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.

The 3rd Annual Hugh Kirkpatrick Bursary was awarded to Colin Young, who is the assistant superintendent at The Weston Golf & Country Club.

As part of Colin's application for this scholarship he submitted an essay, "Getting the most out of your employees" see page 31. After reading his essay, I'm sure you will agree that Colin is a very deserving candidate.

2004 Green Is Beautiful Awards

Barry Endicott "Article Of The Year Award"



The criteria for awarding the Barry Endicott "Article Of The Year Award" is based on a point system consisting of originality, relevance, clarity, depth, style, illustrations, and readability. The recipient is judged by the Editorial Advisory Committee in November.

The recipient this year is Jennifer Pendrith, Superintendent at Kawartha Golf & Country Club, for her article in the October 2004 issue of *Green is Beautiful*, entitled "Keeping Our Heads Above Water". This article depicted how Mother Nature can quickly turn a golf course upside down.

"Photo of the Year Award"



The criteria for awarding the best photo is divided into five categories: golf course, projects, landscaping, wildlife, and finally, best overall. The recipient's photo is judged by the Editorial Advisory committee.

The recipient this year is Rob Eagleson, Assistant Superintendent at Muskoka Lakes Golf & Country Club, for the photo of "The Muskoka Lakes Golf & Country Club" which appeared in the October 2004 issue of *Green is Beautiful*.

Gets where it has to go

FERTILIZER THAT GETS DOWN TO BUSINESS

And that's good business.

If your green's fertilizer won't go where it should, chances are neither will your golfers' putts.

Nu-Gro Select 21-3-16 Micro Grade Fertilizer was designed specifically for greens. Its microgranular particle size (100 SGN) works down into the green's canopy, to nurture Canada's quickest greens. Its balanced formulation delivers 97% nitrogen from Nutralene. Through hydrolysis and microbial action, Nu-Gro Select's dual release activity is ready to go to work when you need it.

Choose Nu-Gro Select Micro Grade fertilizer. Because it's all about the game.

nu-gro select
MICRO GRADE FERTILIZER

GET DOWN TO BUSINESS.
CHOOSE NU-GRO SELECT.
1-800-461-6471

TM - Trademark of Nu-Gro Corporation



**NOW
REGISTERED**
Anthracnose,
Fairy Ring,
Leaf spot & Melting,
Fusarium Patch, ...

The most *complete*
fungicide for cool
& wet weather.

Heritage, the only systemic strobilurin, is now registered to control Fusarium Patch, Leaf Spot & Melting, Fairy Ring, Anthracnose, and 4 more turf diseases. It is these registrations and the ability to last for up to 28 days that make Heritage the best fungicide to keep your course clean during the cool & wet weather. For more information on Heritage call Syngenta at 1-888-368-4211 x327.



www.syngentaprofessionalproducts.com

Important: Always read and follow label instructions before using this product.
©2002 Syngenta. Syngenta Crop Protection Canada, Inc., Guelph, ON N1G 4Z3
HERITAGE® is a registered trademark of a Syngenta Group Company.

GreenPartners™
Part of the Green Partners Program.



gimmeshelter

**PROTECT
YOUR ASSETS**



**We Build • Maintenance Buildings • Storage Facilities
• New Buildings • Wood & Steel Structures • Additions
• and do Renovations**

For your **FREE ESTIMATES** call us at **1-800-215-1996**
www.braemarbuildings.com

NEW FOR 2005—THE JACOBSEN AR3 TRIM MOWER **for maintaining around tees, sand traps and intermediate roughs**

The powerful 33 hp turbo Kubota diesel engine coupled with a hydrostatic transmission and 3 WD makes the AR3 a real performer! Operator comfort is not compromised as the AR3 is equipped with a deluxe weight compensating seat, tilt wheel, easy access from the left or right and excellent operator visibility. The three 27" mulching/rear discharge decks with full width heavy duty rear rollers provide excellent striping characteristics.



VISIT OUR WEBSITE
www.gcduke.com

1184 PLAINS ROAD EAST
BURLINGTON, ONTARIO L7S 1W6

Burlington Area: 905-637-5216
Toronto Area: 905-338-2404
All Other Ontario Areas: 800-883-0761
Fax: 905-637-2009

Member profile

Interview with Bob Hutcheson

Owner of Hutcheson Sand & Mixes

by Angelo Capannelli

We sat in Bob's home overlooking the picturesque town of Huntsville, to conduct this interview. Bob has spent all his 78 years in this town and says that his family roots date back to 1886 when they settled in Huntsville, to own and operate a general store. Bob personally got his first taste in business when he was employed by Muskoka Wood Products, another family owned business that manufactured and sold hardwood flooring, amongst other things, throughout Canada and the US. Bob was responsible for travelling throughout his territory selling their product line. After several years of doing this he felt that it was time for a change. As Bob tells it.... I was in Rome in 1956, on a business trip for Muskoka Wood Products and staying at the Excelsior Hotel, overlooking the Tiber River. There was a snow storm, the first in 27 years, and I decided to go for a walk. I ended up at Castle St. Angelo (how appropriate) where I proceeded to climb to the top. Upon reaching the top I noticed what appeared to be handcuffs fastened to a stone wall circa 1600's. At that moment I thought of what my grandfather had said to me and that was, "With your personality, Bob, it is

better to own your peanut stand and control your destiny." He returned to Canada and tendered his resignation with Muskoka Wood Products and began to control his own destiny.

He started to purchase land in the area to pursue hobbies, as Bob refers to them. Diesel gasoline, fuel oil distribution and Christmas trees were going to be those hobbies. One of the parcels of land was dedicated to growing Christmas trees. This business proved to be quite successful but after developing an allergy to the trees and being away from his young family Bob felt again that it was time to pursue another hobby. In 1967 the Hutcheson Sand & Gravel Company was formed. Coincidentally, the same land that grew some beautiful trees was blessed with some wonderful sand and gravel. It was not until 1985, when the Lakeside Course at Deerhurst Resort was being built, that the sand gained recognition in the golf course community. With a commitment from Bob Hutcheson, and his generous capital investment, the Hutcheson Sand & Mixes Company was on it's way to becoming the leader in the golf course sand and mixes industry. The rest, as they say, is history. Bob would like to



thank all of the people that have contributed to the success of the Hutcheson Sand & Mixes Company; agronomists, superintendents, contractors and educators alike, thank you!!!! This reputation in the golf industry has allowed Hutcheson Sand and Mixes to penetrate other segments, which include beach volleyball. They have received international recognition in this area with their involvement in the Olympic Games held in Sydney and Athens.

Bob loves all the seasons and some of his passions include: hunting, skiing, all recreational activities including scuba diving and fishing. Let your imagination run wild.

"In the Hot Seat"

- Favourite down hill event? Lake Louise, Alberta
- Favourite piece of sand & gravel equipment? Classifier
- Ultimate foursome/skiers? Scott, Blake, Anne (children)
- Favourite golf course? Capilano GC, West Vancouver, BC
- Lowest round & where? In 1955, St. Louis CC had a caddy, out all night the night before carrying on....
One of those rounds that everything went well.
- Favourite meal? Pheasant pie
- Favourite movie or book? Polar Express at the IMAX theatre, (grandchildren enjoy it)
Book: English Bloods
- Favourite artist? Jim Milligan (singer) bass baritone from Huntsville, Ontario Tom Thomson,
Brenda Wainman-Goulet
- Rate your lawn on a scale from 1-10: 1 - beyond repair
- What do you envision yourself doing if you weren't working the turf industry? Wandering the world
participating with friends

Golf course highlight

Mississauga Golf & Country Club

1725 Mississauga Road, Mississauga ON
 Golf Course Superintendent: Bob Brewster
 Assistant Superintendent: Colin White
 Website: mississaugagolf.com



18th Bunker - Photo by Colin White

COURSE PROFILE

What county is your club located in?
 Peel Region

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

Size of Membership?
 1600

Number of Rounds annually?
 29,000 - 31,000

Typical opening and closing date
 Mid-April to early December

How long have you been a superintendent?
 32 years

How long have you been an OGSA member?
 30 years (AA)

Are you a CGCS or Master Superintendent?
 No

List other accomplishments
 OGSA President (1982),
 OGSA Board Member, Audubon Member

How many year round staff?
 7

How many seasonal staff?
 18

How many mechanics and assistants?
 Mechanics: Tony Carnovale (head) & 1 p/t
 Assistants: Colin White (1st), Don Smith (2nd)

How many gardening staff?
 Marek Palczewski (head) & 1 p/t

COURSE STATISTICS

How many holes?
 18

What is the yardage from back tees and forward tees?
 7,017 yards from the back tees and
 5,725 yards from the front tees

What is the size & length of driving range and range tee?
 Driving range: 290 yards and
 Range tee: 27,000 sq. ft.

How many bunkers?
 77

How many ponds, and/or how many times does water come into play?
 1 pond, water on 7 holes

Who was the original architect?
 George Cumming

What was the year of original construction? 1906

By whom and when was the course remodeled?

Donald Ross - 1919
 Stanley Thompson - 1927
 Doug Carrick - 2000 to present

Major Tournaments held

Canadian Open in 1931, '38, '42, '51, '65, '74 - Canadian Senior Open in 2001 - Ontario Amateur Championship 2003 and Canadian Amateur Championship in 2006

What is the size of your maintenance shop?
 9,134 square feet

What type of irrigation system?
 Toro Network 8000 double row

What is the size of the greens, tees & fairways?
 120,117 sq. ft. of greens
 76,009 sq. ft. of tees
 25.7 acres of fairways

What is your predominant grass?
 Poa Annua

How many USGA greens and how many loam greens?
 8 USGA greens and 14 loam greens

What is the predominant soil type?
 Heavy loam

What equipment do you have in inventory?

2 - Toro 4000D rough mowers
 1 - Toro 3500D rotary Sidewinder
 1 - Toro 3100D reel Sidewinder
 3 - Toro 5400D fairway mowers
 1 - Toro 5300D fairway mower
 1 - Toro 5100D fairway mower
 1 - set of Toro verticut units for fairways
 1 - Toro 3150 triplex green mower
 2 - Toro 3100 triplex green mowers
 3 - Toro 3100 triplex tee mowers
 1 - set Toro verticut units for greens & tees
 1 - Toro 1600 walk behind mower for collars and approaches
 4 - Toro 1000 walk behind mowers for small tees
 1 - Toro 500 floating head mower
 1 - Toro 325 with blower & sweeper
 2 - Toro 5500 sprayers
 1 - Massey Ferguson 1145 tractor
 1 - John Deere 5210 tractor
 1 - Kubota L4630D tractor
 1 - Ford 455 backhoe
 2 - Cushman utility vehicles
 1 - Cushman with dedicated topdresser
 1 - Ty-Crop MH 400 fairway topdresser
 2 - Toro Workman utility vehicles
 8 - EZGO golf cart
 3 - Yamaha golf cart
 7 - Shindaiwa string trimmers

4 - Banner hover mowers
 1 - Bergal leaf vac
 1 - Ryan sod cutter
 1 - Jacobsen overseeder
 1 - Lely tow behind fertilizer spreader
 2 - Toro ProCore 648 aerators
 1 - Toro fairway aerator
 1 - Mobark wood chipper
 1 - Howse PTO rotary deck
 1 - Speed roller
 1 - Log splitter
 1 - Little Wonder blower
 1 - Hahn blower
 1 - Brutus roller
 1 - Bomag tamper
 2 - 2" trash pumps
 1 - Rototiller
 1 - generator

RECENT HIGHLIGHTS...

What projects have you recently completed?

-Bunker renovation using Proangle sand and bunker/green surround reconstruction on holes # 10, 13, 14 in 2000.
 -Added yardage by constructing and renovating tees 2000/04.
 -Credit river realignment project in 2003/04.
 -13 tee/fairway reconstruction 2003/04.

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

-Renovate practice facility, enlarge new practice putting green, continue rebuilding tees and upgrade pump station.

Are there any particular challenges you face with your property?

-The Credit River frequently floods the golf course during the spring thaw. It deposits ice, silt, and debris on the turf.
 -Worm castings are numerous on several fairways in the late fall and early spring causing a decrease in turf quality.

Do you have any success stories?

-The Credit River realignment project last year has eliminated erosion along the fourth and ninth holes. It has reduced silt and increased fish habitat along this stretch of river.

What type of innovative cultural practices have you performed?

-A Floyd McKay drill aerator was used to modify and improve drainage on several older push up greens.
 -The Dry Jet aeator was used on 6 greens last fall to incorporate sand into older soil greens.

Credit River Realignment

by Colin White
Assistant Superintendent
Mississaugua Golf & Country Club

Each season golf courses everywhere deal with varying problems that mother nature creates. The Mississaugua Golf and Country Club faces an on going battle of give and take with the Credit River as it winds through the river valley dissecting the golf course. Every year this attractive and sometimes destructive river is the cause of erosion and flooding during periods of high rainfall. In addition, the river is capable of causing extensive ice damage due to high water levels during the spring thaw.

The Mississaugua Golf and Country Club was founded in 1906 and has worked continually over the years to limit the river's negative impact, while at the same time utilizing its beauty and strategic value. In the past, high water levels have been controlled by utilizing berms that help hold the river within its course. Unfortunately, additional demands placed on the Credit River as an urban storm water channel have increased its water volume and velocity. The resulting erosion and ice scour has lead to the loss of land along the fourth and ninth holes. Every year this problem has continued to grow. Over the past 40 years protective measures, such as concrete block and retaining walls, were installed along the Credit River by the club in an effort to protect the riverbanks. Previous attempts in 1996 to control erosion along the fourth hole with concrete blocks solved the site specific erosion but increased water velocity and moved the problem further down stream. In the late 1990's discussions with the Credit Valley Conservation Authority (CVCA) were conducted regarding alternative protection measures. One option was to repair and extend the existing armour stone wall beside the fourth green. Another option was to incorporate some form of bioengineering to stabilize the river banks. It quickly became clear that the CVCA wanted to avoid the use of armour stone in favour of a bioengineered protection and stabilization system.



Erosion beside fourth green

In March 1999, Schollen and Company Inc. were hired to secure permits and design a solution to the erosion problems. With their extensive experience, Schollen and Company recognized that a sustainable stabilization solution needed to accommodate the natural dynamics of the river system. Their task was to generate a plan that was ecologically diverse and natural in appearance that met the requirements of the golf club and the regulating agencies. The design needed to minimize the use of hard armouring used to stop site specific erosion. The most important objective was to provide long term stabilization of the riverbank along the fourth and ninth holes.



Erosion along ninth hole

The plan involved realigning the channel to pre 1954 conditions. Old aerial photographs were used in determining this new alignment. The majority of erosion occurs where two sharp meanders have formed in the river between the fourth and ninth hole. To correct this problem the tight radius of the meanders had to be softened. To accomplish this, material was excavated and removed from one side of the river creating a temporary channel. The excavated material was moved to the other side of the river and used to fill the sharp meander that had formed over the years. Essentially the plan was to straighten the river out slightly. The three key elements to the success of this plan involved:

- a) *realignment using turning stones and rock veins to direct the flow of water along the center of the new channel;*
- b) *a grade control structure to slow the flow of water past the area being eroded; and*
- c) *bioengineering to help stabilize and protect the banks.*

In order to direct water flow, turning stones were placed above the meanders to help concentrate flow along the centerline of the channel. The rock veins were placed on the river bottom on the outside of the meander bends to reduce the potential for erosion and maintain 2.5m deep pools for fish habitat. They were constructed of large armour stone imbedded into the bottom of the river and extend out approximately 12 feet angling 50 degrees upstream. The second key element would slightly raise the water levels by constructing two rock ramp grade control structures. By raising water levels, the rock ramps provided backpressure, which in turn slows down the river flow and reduces erosion. The core of the structure is created using armour stone imbedded into the pavement of the channel. Round stone and native stone were utilized above and below the rock ramp to create a long

riffle between the two meanders. Along the crest of the ramps larger fieldstones were placed to help fracture ice as it moves over the ramps. The long term goals of reducing bank erosion was addressed using bioengineered techniques to stabilize the banks along the length of the channel. The term bioengineered technique refers to the use of vegetation and natural stone working together to provide a lasting living matrix. Unlike armour stone structures that are most resilient after their initial construction and degrade over time, bioengineered solutions become stronger over time. As the vegetation matures the root mass extends and binds with the subsoil and stone creating a solid living matrix. Large round stone was used to create the base structure of the slope. The stone was extended from the bed of the channel to just above high water mark. Soil was placed on and around the stone bank to create a planting bed for a diverse selection of plant material that would grow and stabilize the bank. Plant species were selected for their ability to grow quickly and regenerate easily. *Willow* and *Dogwood* are the two main shrub species planted because of their ability to regenerate rapidly from remaining root mass, if sheared off by ice. Tree species included *Red Maple*, *White Pine*, and *American Larch*. To enhance the appearance and diversity of the river bank many different shrubs and perennials were included in the planting plan. These include *Smooth Wild Rose*, *Narrow-leaved Meadowsweet*, *Snowberry*, *Swamp Milkweed*, *Woodland Sunflower*, *Meadow Phlox*, *Blue Vervain*, *Purple Coneflower*, and *Black Eyed Susan*. Several types of grasses, including *Switch Grass* and *Indian Grass*, were seeded along the banks. Another key component of the plan was to create and improve fish habitat. As part of the design, an overhang structure was incorporated along the edge of the river above the first meander. Along with deeper pools and riffles, the fish habitat through this stretch of river would be improved.



Construction of new bank beside fourth hole



Construction of new bank beside ninth hole

Credit River Realignment continued...

The permit process started in July 2000. It involved submitting plans for approval to the CVCA, the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, the Ministry of Natural Resources, and the Canadian Coast Guard. The CVCA had to review the proposed plan to remove the existing armour stone, modify the river alignment, and implement biotechnical stabilization. The plans were forwarded for review to the other agencies involved. Over the next 26 months revisions were made, and the plans adjusted according to the different requirements of the involved agencies. Final approval and permitting was granted in September 2002 to realign the Credit River and the work started one year later in October 2003. The delay of one year gave the club enough time to present the project to the membership and coordinate the river realignment project with the reconstruction of the 13th fairway and tees.

With the permits and plans in hand, the club hired R&M Construction of Acton, Ontario to carry out the work. One of the preconstruction jobs R&M completed during the summer of 2003 was the sourcing and stockpiling of nearly 7200 tonnes of fieldstone required for the job. This was necessary due to the large quantity of stone needed to be available on site when the work started. The project started in early October with brush clearing and the installation of a temporary bridge across the river to allow work on both sides of the river to take part simultaneously. During this time, golf course staff cleared additional scrub brush along the river, exposing specimen trees and allowing new vistas across the river. The realignment was the first step in the earthworks component of the construction process. This involved staking out the new channel the river would follow. The existing armour stone wall beside the fourth green was partially dismantled and each block set in the water to create a coffer dam to allow fill to be deposited in. Fill was removed from the inside of the meander and placed where the erosion had taken place on the outside of the meander. Once the fill was excavated, the river was temporarily diverted into the newly excavated diversion channel while the rock ramp grade control structure and rock veins were built on the riverbed. Following this, large fieldstones were placed along the slope with topsoil and vegetation added afterwards to create the bank stabilization. Silt contamination in the river was avoided by leaving a 1m buffer strip of undisturbed shoreline on the side that excavation was taking place. Silt fencing was erected along the river's edge wherever work was being carried out. Using this technique there was close to zero disruption or silt contamination in the river. This same process was used for both the meander beside the fourth green and the meander beside the ninth tee. R&M has extensive experience in riparian works and our project moved along quickly. Ninety percent of the project was completed in just over two months. The remaining ten percent of the work was complete in the spring of 2004

including the planting of perennials and shrubs.

The realignment of the Credit River provided a number of benefits to the golf course and Credit River system including:

- 1) Stabilization and protection of the banks has eliminated land loss caused by erosion and ice scour. This in turn has reduced the amount of sediment in the water.*
- 2) The water channeled to the center of the river by the rock veins has created deeper pools and reduced the effects of erosion at the shoreline.*
- 3) Increased fish habitat with the creation of the log crib structure, the deeper pools, and the riffles created by the rock ramps*
- 4) The rock ramp grade control structure has created slower moving, deeper pools behind them. This has provided a constant water level to supply the irrigation pumps.*
- 5) Views were enhanced along the river and throughout the golf course. The new perennials and shrubs are able to be enjoyed from many different vantage points.*



Finished bank beside fourth green

Through 2004 the river stabilization initiatives have held up extremely well. Once the water level receded in the early spring of 2004 the stabilization work was inspected and found to be virtually undisturbed and unaffected by the ice flows. During the summer of 2004 vegetation continued to mature and this fall we had a dense mix of plants established on the banks. The CVCA conducted their final site visit during the fall of 2004 and gave their final stamp of approval. So far, the river realignment project has successfully fulfilled its goal of stopping unwanted erosion and land loss along the fourth and ninth holes. Furthermore, the work has enhanced the aquatic environment for fish and enhanced the visual quality for members and their guests to enjoy for many years to come.



Bayer Environmental Science

NOW
REGISTERED FOR
FUSARIUM PATCH

*The **New** direction in turf protection*



Introducing new COMPASS 50WG strobilurin fungicide from Bayer Environmental Science. COMPASS has everything you need in a fungicide: excellent disease control, broad spectrum activity and low use rates. With its revolutionary mesostemic mode of action, COMPASS binds tightly to turf and redistributes itself.

This prevents infection and maintains continuous protection of the treated and nearby turf plants for up to 21 days. Learn more about COMPASS today - the new direction in turf protection.

NEW
Compass™ 50WG
FUNGICIDE

www.bayeres.ca

1-888-283-6847

ALWAYS READ PRODUCT LABEL PRIOR TO USE. Compass® is a registered trademark of Bayer. Always read and follow label directions.

OSC/Nutrite Seminar Report

by Ken Graham

Photos by Adrien Gallant

Whistle Bear Golf Club, located in Cambridge, Ontario, was the host of this year's 16th Annual OSC/Nutrite Seminar. A record 215 professional turf managers representing golf courses, municipalities, lawn care companies, agronomic services, media and manufacturers attended this year's program, which provided some of the industries latest research updates, as well as current events.

The following is a list of sponsors, who with their generosity and continued support, help make an event like this possible:

AGRIUM – AGROTAIN – AGTURF – BAYCO – BAYER ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES – BURNSIDE GOLF SERVICES – CAMERON CHEMICALS – DOW AGROSCIENCES – ENGAGE AGRO – GREAT SALT LAKE MINERALS – IMC CANADA – JACKLIN SEED – MARTIN MARIETTA MAGNESIA – PARKWAY RESEARCH – PBI GORDON – SUSTANE CORP. – SYNGENTA – TEE-2-GREEN – TURF AND RECREATION PUBLISHING

This year's seminar was recognized by IPM and saw Pam Charbonneau awarding attendees 3 1/2 points. The GCSAA also awarded its members in attendance .45 continuing education credits.

Host Superintendent, Matt Hallman and Director of Golf, Brad Matthews welcomed everyone to this year's seminar at Whistle Bear, which was also the host to this past summer's Canadian Nationwide Tour Event. A report on the enormous amount of time spent in planning, meetings and schedules as well as labour, staffing and overall costs was presented by Brad Matthews to give some insight into the complexity of hosting an event of this magnitude.



Dr. Ken Kobayashi

Dr. Kenneth A. Kobayashi, a Dermatologist from Waterloo, Ontario, reported on "Sun Awareness For Golf Course Personnel", the continued importance for each of us to be aware of the sun, the atmosphere and what we are supposed to be doing to help protect ourselves and our employees, from harmful exposures caused by the sun. The doctor explained the breakdown of how to properly read a label on a bottle of sun block, including what the letters SPF stand for, why the number on the bottle is of great importance, how much to apply and how often. Dr. Kobayashi also presented us with some outstanding slides. He showed us what to look for if we suspect we have the early signs of skin cancer and also reminded us of the importance of our depleting ozone layer and how each of us can protect ourselves from these harmful rays. For more information visit: www.dermatology.ca.



"Improving Nitrogen Efficiency In Turf" was the topic from Alan K. Nees, Vice President of North American Turf and Ornamental Sales for Agrotain International. The continued and growing concerns to our environment, what we are applying to the turf and how we as professionals are maintaining it, has become a major topic of discussion in many of our offices and lunchrooms today. Alan explained to us the three major benefits of using stabilized nitrogen fertilizers with a release of 12-16 weeks. Benefits such as "Cost effectiveness", "Environmental awareness" and "Maximize performance" were discussed in great detail. For more information, visit www.anees@agrotain.com

Drew Rachar, Superintendent of the newly constructed "The Ridge At Manitou" Golf Club in the Parry Sound district, offered us his "Keys To My Grow-In Success"

report. He shared with us some very interesting and exciting slides from the construction phases and offered his own advice and ideas that he either learned or was pressed into dealing with during the day-to-day operations of construction. Summaries of Drew's keys are;

- "Staffing"- the importance of having and keeping a good crew and his secrets to keeping things positive and in perspective.
- "Growing Environment" – having a good reliable tree company to help assess your investment when it comes to such issues as shade and health of the plant.
- "Plant Nutrition" – basing it on soil test reports, knowing how much or little to apply and when to apply and the importance of record keeping.
- "Cultural Practices" – keeping the new turf healthy with as little stress as possible.
- "Planning/Record Keeping" – the importance of accurate and complete record keeping of every day to day job and project along with extensive week to week, month by month planning to meet those objectives.

"Fall Fertilization Strategies" by Dr. Kevin Frank of Michigan State University was a topic based on the importance of choosing the right fertilizer product for your late fall application, quick release vs. slow release, the timing of your application and breaking down the elements "Macronutrients vs. Micronutrients" of your fertilizer along with the advantages and disadvantages of late fall fertilizing. What are the strategies to applying slow release vs a quick release product at this time of year? What factors must we take into consideration? How do I choose what fertilizer is best suited for my requirements? What will work best at this time of year and what shouldn't I be applying?

To begin the afternoon sessions, Dr. Frank's topic "Factors Affecting Green Speed" asked the big question "Can You Tell The Difference?" A comprehensive study was performed at various golf courses throughout the state of Michigan to see if golfers could tell if there was consistency in their greens, taken into consideration were

such variables as; height of cut, wear on the greens from morning to afternoon, maintenance practices, temperature, humidity, fertility, and of course weather. Studies and charts were shown to provide information on daily practices performed by the maintenance crew, golfer feedback, daily weather forecasts and even results to questions posed to the golfers each day. For more information, go to www.frankk@msu.edu.

It's always a pleasure to hear from Rob Witherspoon, of the G.T.I. Rob's topic was called: "What's Up At The Institute And An Industry Update From The G.T.I." where he spent a little time reminding us of the history and importance of our Guelph Turfgrass Institute. He began with the early days of the Cambridge Turf Plots, to present day research updates and funding along with an update of all that the G.T.I. offers to us in regards to education with the Associate Diploma in Turf Management Course, Turf Manager's Short Course and Summer Field Day. Rob introduced the University of Guelph's newest faculty member and now the Assistant Professor in the Department of Plant Agriculture, Dr. Eric Lyons. Dr. Lyons joined the University team back in July 2004, and came to us from Rutgers University where he was a postdoctoral associate under the supervision of Dr. Bingru Huang. Dr. Lyons presented to us an economic model of turfgrass and compared it to the way a business is run. He incorporated resources, labour, energy, raw materials and a cost/benefit standpoint in a topic entitled, "Turf Is My Business And Business Is Good: An Economic View Of Turfgrass Growth."

We were shown the similarities of how a turf plant grows, reproduces and how much money we spend on our investment along with the importance of each part of the plant and it's role in the "Business" and compared it to the same way we run any franchise and its operations. OSC and Nutrite Fertilizers, wish to extend our thanks for the 2004 season and best wishes to everyone in 2005. We look forward to seeing everyone in the upcoming season.



Professional Products

Simon George
Technical Sales

Maple Turf Supply
8112 King Rd. W.
P.O. Box 370
Bolton, Ontario
L7E 5T3

Business: (905) 857-2000
Fax: (905) 857-8215
Mobile: (519) 841-3378
1-800-268-4425
sg142@hotmail.com

ALMACK AGRONOMIC SERVICES INC.

SPECIALISTS IN TURFGRASS NUTRITION



Corrie Almack P.Ag.

Almack Agronomic Services Inc.
Box 256, Carlisle, On
L0R 1H0

Tel: (905) 689-6174
Fax: (905) 689-8522
Email: c.almack@sympatico.ca

Set Them Free



A Better Way to Control Weeds

Casoron® G4

Labour-free Weed Control

- Casoron G4 is an easy to use granular herbicide that provides the ideal answer for weed control problems in shelterbelts, fruit trees, cane fruit, hedgerows and around trees and shrubs on golf courses.
- Casoron G4 eliminates the need for labour-intensive and costly hand weeding.
- Easily applied with a granular applicator, Casoron G4 can be used annually for long-lasting residual control of annual and perennial weeds.
- For more information, contact your local UAP dealer.



West: 1-800-561-5444

Ontario: 1-800-265-4624

Quebec & Maritimes: 1-800-361-9369

* Casoron G4 is a registered trademark of Compucon Inc./CIC.

1998

Nu-Gro Corporation



John Bladon

IPM Coordinator / Technical Sales

Tel: 519.757.0077

Cell: 519.574.2013

jbladon@nu-gro.ca

DCS

Agronomic Services

David C. Smith, A.Ag., C.G.C.S.

Soil & Turfgrass Consultant

(7645)

Office (705) 687-SOIL

Fax (705) 687-3518

Cell (905) 512-6004

185 Oriole Crescent

Gravenhurst, Ontario

P1P 1C6

(8873)

Toll Free 1-888-607-TURF

Email dcs.agronomic.services@sympatico.ca



TURF CARE



**Out of the bunker
and under the trees,
to water the turf we go.**

Turf Care Products Canada

200 PONY DRIVE, NEWMARKET, ONTARIO L3Y 7B6 • PHONE (905) 836-0988 • FAX (905) 836-6442

London

Ph: (519) 668-7664

Fax: (519) 668-3722

Mississauga

Ph: (905) 890-6290

Fax: (905) 890-5598

Scarborough

Ph: (416) 298-2101

Fax: (416) 298-8758

Gloucester

Ph: (613) 822-1881

Fax: (613) 822-2099



30°
7°

**Introducing the 835S and 855S Series
Sprinkler with TruJectory™.**

You know that bunker that's always getting wet? Or that tree branch that's always in the way? Now you can address trouble spots with TruJectory, exclusively from Toro. Simply adjust the trajectory of the spray from 7 to 30 degrees and get better head-to-head coverage. Plus there's part- and full-circle operation in one sprinkler. Add these new features to the great ones already standard on the 800S Series sprinklers and you'll gain the flexibility you need for better results. And you'll get it all for the same value as your current part-circle fixed trajectory sprinklers. For more information, contact one of our sales representatives at Turf Care or go online to www.turfcare.ca.

TORO

Count on it.

Georgian Bay Golf Superintendents Association

The GBGSA has a long history of supporting various turf research groups in Ontario. The executive announced a new program in 2004 designed to enhance the learning opportunities for students who are currently employed by a GBGSA member. To qualify for this scholarship, the student must meet the following criteria:

- The applicant must work for a golf club that is a member of the GBGSA.
- The applicant must be enrolled in a recognized turf management program within Canada or United States
- Written submission of outlining career goals, work experience and current supervisors.

The GBGSA executive and members are very proud to announce the recipient of the 2005 GBGSA Turfgrass Scholarship Program.

Congratulations to Jeff Eichenberger! Jeff is presently enrolled in the Associate Diploma in

Turfgrass Management at the University of Guelph and graduates in 2005. Jeff has been employed with the Duntroon Highlands Golf Club near Collingwood since 1996, under the direction of Golf Course Superintendent, Jason Dowling.



L-R Jeff Alexander, Past Pres., GBGSA & Jeff Eichenberger

Do you have turf that is unhealthy?
Unsure of the cause?

Turf Diagnostics @ GTI

Send a sample to
Turf Diagnostics
at the Guelph Turfgrass Institute
for a complete diagnosis &
recommendation.

For details:
www.gti.uoguelph.ca
(519) 824-4120 x52055



ALL TURF LTD.

1-800-263-1293

705-431-0561

www.allturf.ca



All your needs for all your turf

Ontario Representatives

CHRIS SHEPPARD BRUCE STANLEY

416-991-4572

416-991-4595

CARA SHEPPARD

416-991-4597

MICHAEL FRASER

905-651-4515

DAVID SIM

905-260-2183



Why Prune Your Trees?

At Bartlett we believe that you should prune for a specific purpose. We recommend pruning to improve:

- Safety • Health
- Structural Integrity
- Damage Correction

Skill, knowledge and experience are required to prune properly. So don't entrust your landscape to anyone but experts – Bartlett Tree Experts.

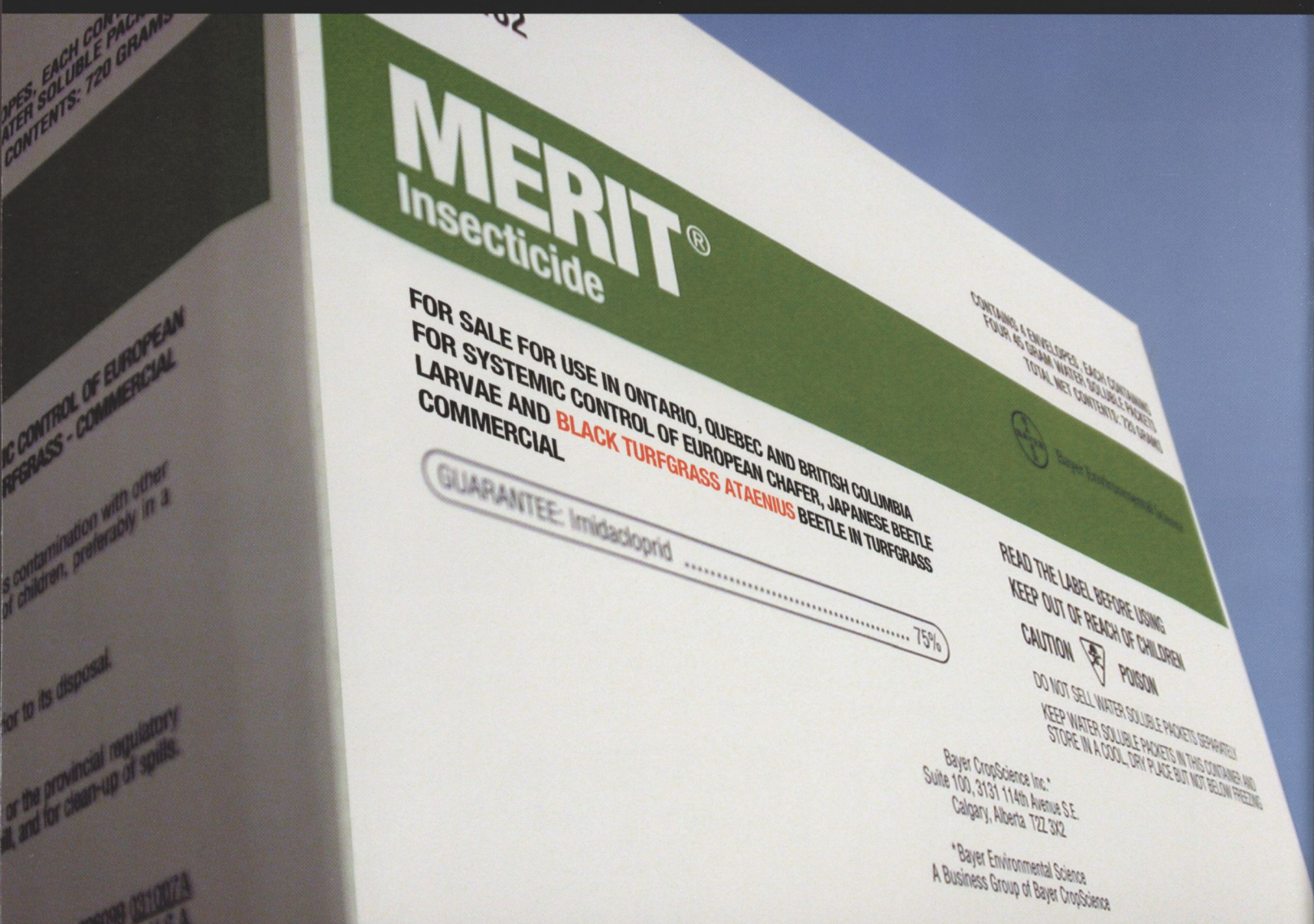
Call for your free inspection today!!

Toronto • (416) 657-2059
Bracebridge • (705) 646-8733
Gravenhurst • (705) 687-0696
Huntsville • (705) 789-0929
www.bartlett.com

BACKED BY THE BARTLETT TREE RESEARCH
LABORATORIES AND EXPERIMENTAL
GROUNDS, CHARLOTTE, NC



Bayer Environmental Science



New label addition.

"As if you needed another reason to use Merit."

Time-tested Merit insecticide is the standard for grub control on a wide range of professional turf applications. You know how well it works on European Chafer and Japanese Beetle. Now Merit is registered for Black Turfgrass Ataenius (BTA) and you can expect the same outstanding results. Available in two formulations: 0.5G and Solupak.

MERIT CONTROL. The standard in grub control.

Merit®
INSECTICIDE

For more information contact Bayer Environmental Science www.bayeres.ca 1-888-283-6847

Quebec: 514-949-2467 • Ontario/Western Canada: 905-464-8399 • Ontario/Atlantic Canada: 519-239-3983

Always read and follow label directions. Merit is a registered trademark of Bayer CropScience. Note: Merit 0.5G is registered for use in Ontario, Quebec, the City of Halifax, Nova Scotia and British Columbia. Merit Solupak is registered for use in Ontario, Quebec and British Columbia.

On the road again

by Scott Horsburgh
Plant Products

The beginning of this year's trade show season is special for two reasons: the inaugural joint Turfgrass Conference and Trade Show between the OGSA and the CGSA and secondly, it means that I only have to attend one trade show this year.

Everything kicks off for me on Saturday when it's time to get the iron out and make sure that the shirts are ironed and the pants pressed before leaving for Toronto. Once everything is ironed, I start to pack and realize that maybe I should have waited to iron, as I might have to redo everything when I unpack at the hotel. Now, all I need to do is get a good night's sleep, as it will probably be my last one until I return home from the conference.

After a good sleep, it is time to load up the truck and fuel up with coffee for the drive into the city, to meet my co-workers, to set up the trade show booth. Once everyone arrives we go

through our checklist: booth, signs, flowers, duct tape and, most importantly, the candy. As usual we always seem to forget something we need and this year it was the scissors, but who needs scissors when you have teeth. Now we can start to set-up the booth. Luckily, we do not have to bring in equipment, like some of the other suppliers, so we are done with enough time to go grab some lunch.

Monday is here and it is time to get down to business. The trade show seems to start off slow, and then I realize that our booth is in the opposite corner from the entrance. After a little while everyone starts to arrive on the other side of the room and our booth begins to fill up with our clients and old friends. Speaking for myself, I know that I appreciated the five hours that were set aside for the trade show during the afternoon, as sometimes the speakers are so good that people just do not have the time to visit the trade show floor.

When we arrive at the booth on Tuesday morning, the first thing we have to do is make sure that the candy jars are full, as I am sure that a few folks might need a pick me up after a late night. Tuesday flies by as once again the trade show is busy. I am surprised when the announcement is made to say that the 2005 show is over. Where did the day go?

The trade show is now over and my co-workers and I once again get out the trade show checklist, to make sure we do not leave anything behind. Once we are packed up, we split up the candy so that we all have something to eat on the way home.

Looking back on the first ever joint OGSA/CGSA Conference and Trade Show, I feel that it was a huge success and cannot wait to have Canada back in Ontario in the future, especially since it will mean that I only need to attend one trade show again!

See you all on the road.

Above The Hole

by Justin Parsons, Student & Intern
Markland Wood Country Club

You know those moments in life when you are so painfully aware of your surroundings? It's the way a squirrel must feel when it is halfway across the road and it knows it isn't going to make it. We've all found ourselves in one situation or another that elevates our sense of inadequacy and insecurity. The Turfgrass Conference and Trade Show in Toronto provided the landscape for several of those moments, at least for me.

Of course, I am a turf student and I think you will find that students are the lowest of low in most social settings. Major industry events are no exception. Nor should they be. We don't have the experience, credibility or clothing budget of professionals. All we are armed with is the desire to no longer be a student. Yes indeed, how agreeable it will be to my self-esteem when I can one day stare at all the

fresh-faced young ones and think, "sucker". In the meantime however, I must persevere.

I arrived at the event early and met one of my bosses beforehand. Fortunately for me, he was kind enough to escort me around the trade show floor. As he introduced me to several people, the same thought kept echoing through my mind, "think of something smart to say". As it turns out, the only intelligible comment I could muster was, "pleasure meeting you". I realize it's not exactly profound, but it's a step above staring slack-jawed and drooling. I am exaggerating of course. I did manage to chip in the odd question or comment and when I did, it felt pretty good.

But the truth is, as students, we just don't have the experience. We haven't leased a triplex, or finalized a deal on

a new irrigation system. Most of us probably don't know what our club's chemical budget is, or what the long range plans are for the course. Our limited experience makes it very difficult to feel comfortable when dealing with industry professionals. Consequently, we feel more like bystanders than participants at such events.

All in all however, the trade show was undeniably beneficial. I got to meet some great people and learned about several advancements in the industry. Most importantly though, I now know what to expect for next year.

I'm sure in a few years these types of events will become habitual. Shake a few hands, talk some shop, have a drink, and go home. But for now, they remain awkward industry affairs that remind us just how young and inexperienced we really are.

What's new



Syngenta's Green Partners Program

Golf superintendents who are members of the Green Partners program can now donate their points to the OGSA, for the good of the Association in helping to meet its critical needs. As an added benefit, donations from superintendents to the OGSA will be matched by Syngenta. If you are currently a Green Partners member, please log on to www.greenpartnersonline.ca to register.

Environmental Achievement Award

Keith Bartlett, Superintendent at Thornhill Country Club and OGSA member is the recipient of the CGSA/Toro "Environmental Achievement Award". Keith was honoured at the Conference Awards Luncheon, where it was announced that Keith and Angela will be offered a trip to Valderamma, Spain. Congratulations Keith!

Member Passwords

For security purposes, all members will be required, if not already done, to provide the OGSA office with a personal password by March 1, 2005, to gain access to the Members Only section of the web site. The password must be less than 10 characters, in lower case.

Roster

Each member has been sent a Membership Profile Sheet showing the information we have for them in our data base. Please take a minute to look through it and contact the office with any changes. This information will be used to update our Roster.

Pesticide Licences

A by-law was passed at our recent AGM, requiring that all superintendent and assistant superintendent members provide the OGSA office with a copy of their current pesticide license. If you have not done this yet, would you please do so ASAP. If for some reason you do not have a current license, would you please notify the office of that reason.

American Society of Golf Course Architects

The society is pleased to offer golf course superintendents "Request for Proposal for Golf Course Architectural Services" form. This is a comprehensive document designed to help superintendents address key elements of a project, including general notice, scope of services, owner's responsibilities, submittal requirements and the selection process. May be obtained by mail or email by calling ASGCA at 262-786-5960 or emailing info@asgca.org.

2005 Calendar of Events

OGSA Spring Curling Day

Thursday, March 10, 2005
Dundas Valley Golf & Curling Club, Dundas, ON
Host Supt., Randy Booker

Can/Am

Monday, April 25, 2005
Pointe West Golf Club, Amherstburg, ON
Host Supt: Lamont Anderson

Pro/Super Challenge

Thursday, May 19, 2005
Dalewood Golf & Curling Club, Port Hope, ON
Host Supt: Trevor Clapperton

Spring Field Day

Monday, June 20, 2005
Guelph Lakes Golf & Country Club, Guelph, ON
Host Supt: Don Heinmiller

Presidents' Day

Monday, July 18, 2005
The Scarboro Golf & Country Club
Host Supt: Keith Rasmus

OTRF Fundraiser Event

Tuesday, August 2, 2005
Eagle's Nest, Maple, ON
* This is not an OGSA event. For further information contact the OTRF

Assistants Tournament

Monday, September 19th, 2005
Markland Wood Country Club, Toronto, ON
Host Supt: Chris Nelson

Alex McClumpha Memorial Tournament

Tuesday, October 4, 2005
Lakeview Golf Club, Mississauga, ON
Host Supt: Bruce Burger

Check out www.golfsupers.on.ca under

"Calendar of Events"

to check out the most up-to-date information about up-coming events. We are working on providing "Online Registration" for our OGSA events.

Off the fairway



by Daisy Moore

Priorities

Attractive gardens enhance the outdoor experience and when they're around golf courses, add to the enjoyment of the game of golf. The choices of plants and plant combinations are pretty much endless, so how do you put it all

together and make the right choices? As a golf course gardener, you need to be not only knowledgeable about horticulture, but self motivated, innovative, resourceful, creative and brave.

Gardening is sophisticated enough to require time management techniques. None of us has an unlimited budget, time or help. This means that we have to set priorities, organize our time and plan our gardens accordingly. Winter is the ideal time to sort out how much you can handle and what you will need to do the best job you can. Superintendents will generally respond in a positive manner to your requests because good gardens make them look good too.

Take an overview of the property and catalogue the gardens. Give each garden a name and start making notes. These notes come in handy for gardeners who may follow in your footsteps, for management and as a reminder to yourself. Valuable pieces of information to document are plant combinations that work, how you managed a certain pest, persistent weeds in the area and how long it took to maintain a bed. Record even disastrous results. Photograph the gardens in every season.

There are usually four categories of gardens on golf courses, ranging from high priority to low priority. The highest priority gardens are in the clubhouse area and where people linger. The situations vary widely at each course but it is here that the gardener must pull out all the stops in order to provide a good show. Proper bed preparation and intelligent plant selection are needed. Window boxes, bulb displays, annuals, potted Mums, summer flowering bulbs and other temporary measures are often used to deliver consistent colour and beauty. The show beds can and should be a lot of fun to work with. If there is a theme or specific image the golf course wants to portray, these gardens should pick up on that.

The second priority gardens would be those at the entrance gates. Consider the speed at which people are passing and how best to draw people's attention to the

sign. It is all about the sign. To accent it, you want a good foundation planting of reliable, showy and hardy plants that make a good first impression, year round. Sculptural shrubs, robust evergreens and masses of flowering plants, suited to the conditions, are the best choices. Keep it simple. The front gates are, in my opinion, the most challenging of all the other gardens. Conditions are often windy, prone to salt, un-irrigated, out of site-out of mind and cursed with the need for symmetry. Good luck.

The third priority gardens and the ones which tend to be the greatest in number are all the beds which have evolved over the years at tee sites, decorating out-buildings, around ponds and at other sites out on the golf course. These gardens tend to receive the left over annuals, donated perennials and are tended when time allows. On the other hand, a well designed garden in a suitable location out on the golf course will be a low maintenance asset. A good gardener will plan these gardens using perennials, shrubs, and grasses and use them as beds for holding and nurturing plants intended for higher priority show gardens later on. These out of the way gardens are perfect for experimenting with new ideas, growing flowers for cutting or just a place to get lost for a few hours, if you have the time to spare, that is. In some cases, the best choice is to eliminate gardens when their reason for being is long since lost and require more maintenance than you have the time or will to provide.

And lastly are the out of play areas that often aren't put under the horticulturist's wing but should be. The out-of-play areas beyond the rough are often home to an assortment of local weeds. They are hacked down from time to time when additional labour is available or if someone needs to be punished. On the other hand, these neglected areas can be naturalized and the re-establishment of indigenous plant communities encouraged. Rather than being a source of thistle and burdock seeds which you then have to spend time weeding, these areas can be the source of desirable mavericks like New-England asters, native Penstemons, Indian grass, Beebalm and many others. Consider these areas as ecological buffer zones and manage them to work in your favour.

For more information you can visit my website at www.daisymoore.com

Hutcheson Sand meets Cave Natale, SRL

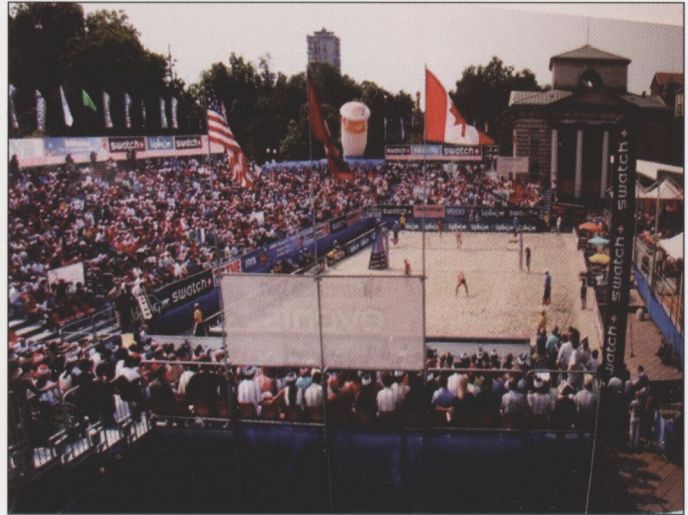
by Angelo Capannelli
Hutcheson Sand & Mixes

Occasionally, I am forced to watch TLN channel 18, the multicultural network here in the GTA. On that network there is a program called Dolce Vita (Sweet Life) hosted by David Rocco. He visits these great little towns throughout Italy finding local recipe's while indulging himself in cultural and historic interests. Here is my version of Dolce Vita.

On October 12, 2004 my colleague Todd Knapton and I set out for yet another work related assignment. This time it was to visit a small sand and gravel company in Vigevano, Italy about 35 kilometers west of Milan and to attend the 1st Golf Italia Exposition in Milan. The company, Cave Natale is producing value added sand and gravel products to the sports turf industry which include golf courses, athletic fields (soccer pitches) and beach volleyball venues. Our company, Hutcheson Sand and Mixes has been producing these types of material for 20 years now so it was an opportunity for the two companies to meet and compare notes. It was also an opportunity for Todd and I to see the equipment and the efficiency of their operation, which turned out to be a learning experience. It was a good fit for both parties.

We were greeted by a very enthusiastic Cristina Natale the owner and an interpreter, named Valleria, at the airport in Milan, the morning of October 13th. My ability to communicate in Italian is very basic and I was very pleased to see that Cristina had made arrangements for an interpreter. I can honestly say that Todd was very pleased also? Driving from the airport to Vigevano, where their business is based, Cristina described the different plateaus of the land and the elevations of the topography and how it relates to the sand and gravel business. The Ticino River has been the prominent source of this sand and gravel in the area. In 1974 the District of Lombardy designated an area of 90 thousand hectares around this river and called it the "Natural Park of the Ticino Valley" thus prohibiting the future extraction of any material. This was a positive step for the preservation of the flora and fauna in the river valley but it presented a new set of challenges for the Cave Natale operation. In comparison, we at Hutcheson own a 600 acre parcel of land in Huntsville that we can extract material from. Our processing plant and all of the equipment necessary to perform this task is right at the source of the material.

The Cave Natale people are forced to make leasing arrangements with local farmers who own land around where the River Ticino once flowed. The deposit of sand and gravel is underneath a layer of topsoil. They come in, strip the topsoil and then extract the material that will be processed. It's usually between 1- 1.5 metres in depth and sometimes, if they are fortunate, they can recover up to 30,000 cubic metres of sand and gravel, depending on the size of the land. The extracted material is then hauled to their processing plant in Vigevano which is sometimes up to 15 – 20 kms away. This becomes very costly. To add to this they must pay .50 euros / cubic meter to the landowner, and an additional .39 euros / cubic meter to the local government, to ensure total rehabilitation of the land. It is also the responsibility of the Cave Natale people to place the topsoil back into the state in which it was found so that the landowner (farmer) can make good use of it, usually to grow rice or corn.



Once the raw material arrives in Vigevano it becomes the responsibility of Giovanni Natale, production manager and brother of Cristina. It is here that the material gets made into different products. One of these products is a USGA specification topdressing sand. The sand is separated from the stone and then fed into a highly sophisticated plant that sizes the particles of sand and washes away the silt and clay. Another product that is made from this process is a grayish / white sand that is ideal for bunkers and beach volleyball venues. With golf courses and athletic fields being built on a regular basis there is also a market for sand/peat or sand/compost mixtures. The compost is a local product (Verona) which is derived from plant tissue and the peat is a humus type peat that is imported from Hamburg, Germany. One of the more popular mixes that they produce is an 80/20 humus peat mix.



One of the many highlights of this trip, for me anyway, was a visit to Stadio Meazza a 70,000 seat stadium in an area of Milan referred to as San Siro. This is where the AC Milan Football Club and the Inter Milan Football Club play their home games. These two teams are considered 2 of the best teams in Serie A of the Italian Football Association. We visited the stadium with Dr. Fabrizio Salto whose firm, Green Service Italia, has the contract to

maintain the field. On that day, Dr. Salto's staff members were re-sodding the goal mouth areas, that were worn out from all of the play the two teams were experiencing which, according to Dr. Salto, happens quite frequently. They use a bluegrass/ryegrass mixture that has been grown in soil supported by synthetic fiber. This system helps the sod stay together when being cultivated and it helps retain its density and vigour after it has been laid, so that the field which is heavily used can be ready for play quickly.

As part of the tour that day we had an opportunity to visit a golf course close to the Malpenza airport. The Robinie GC is a Jack Nicklaus signature golf course that was built back in the early 1990's. Renatto, the greenkeeper, showed us the wonderful piece of property that was created to facilitate this golf course. Apparently, 2 million cubic metres of material was excavated from this site; 1.5 million cubic metres of stone was sold to help finance the construction costs and the remaining 500,000 cubic metres of material was screened and then used to shape and construct the holes. The rumour in the area, during the time the golf course was being constructed, was that there was a sand and gravel company starting operation on this site with all of the material that was extracted. In the end it turned out to be a beautiful, challenging golf course with bentgrass greens, tees and fairways.



The Golf Italia Expo was our final stop on this wonderful tour. A trade show that is dedicated to all things that are golf including, if you can believe it, SAND! Cave Natale was well represented here with their impressive array of beach volleyball and golf

course materials. We managed to bump into Candido Besso at this exposition, an associate of well known Canadian golf architect, Graham Cooke. Mr. Besso gave us his impressions of the state of golf in Northern Italy and how it can be an opportunity for Cave Natale and Hutcheson Sand. There is much work to be done before these golf courses will be maintained at the same standards we have grown to expect here in Ontario and the rest of Canada.



As David Rocco suggested, Todd and I decided to immerse ourselves in a little local culture before leaving Vigevano. With Cristina Natale and the translator Valleria, we visited some of the historical landmarks of this town. Piazza Ducale was built in 1492 and is considered one of the most beautiful piazzas (squares) in all of Italy. People come here to eat, shop, sip espressos and to just hang out. In my humble opinion, it's the heart and soul of this beautiful town. Another impressive structure that dates back to the 13th century is The Sforzesco Castle. It was the residence of all of the town's people back then and provided the Duke of the town protection against enemies. It is attached to the Bramante Tower at the highest point in the town. There were many more magnificent architectural structures that we saw, but I have to remember that this is an article for a trade magazine not one for a travel guide. On that note, I highly recommend a trip to Italy for the Golf Italia Exposition in Milan. While you are there take a short drive to Vigevano and have yourself an espresso in Piazza Ducale.

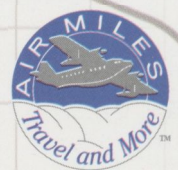
The
Intelligent
Use of Water™





Upgrades, Renovations & New Installations

From evaluation and design to implementation,
Vanden Bussche Irrigation and Rain Bird will
partner with you to succeed in achieving
your irrigation goals.

Milton 1.800.263.4112 www.vandenbussche.com King City 1.866.703.KING

Turf or consequences

by Doug Breen, Superintendent
Golf North

Ok, I admit that I'm no longer the finely tuned athlete that I once was; or think I was; or maybe never was. But honestly, I wasn't too bad in my youth. I played just about every sport going, a few times. I even tried cricket! Just like watching it on TV, I didn't understand what the heck was going on, but I did play it enough times to completely screw up my golf swing. I was a decent second baseman, an average skater, a surprisingly good volleyball player, and in the only truly accurate measurement of adolescent athletic ability, I was never picked last on the playground for anything. I was no Patches O'Houlihan, but could hold my own in a game of dodgeball.

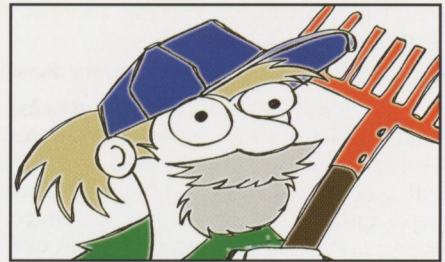
But, if for whatever reason, you find yourself in desperate need of a bout of public humiliation; may I recommend that you attempt snowboarding. After a couple hours of falling, skidding, slipping, sliding, scraping, careening, bouncing, and ricocheting down the hill, you'll feel exactly like that kid who always got picked last in gym class.

I used to ski a lot, and was actually pretty good at it. In my teens and twenties, I spent every cent I could get my hands on, getting myself on the slopes. I even sold my first car to get the cash to spend the weekend at a resort. I would have happily sold a kidney, but without Ebay it was harder to sell an internal organ back then. "Knuckledraggers" were just starting to appear on the hills in those days, but we didn't pay much attention to them, because like CD's and the Internet, we

knew it would never catch on. For the record, I was also wrong about digital cameras and DVD's, but I still believe in vinyl records and VHS. I'm also still quietly rooting for the return of Beta format.

So skiing would have been fine for me, but the problem was that my kids wanted to try it. There was something about watching my five year old daughter make it look incredibly easy that directly attacked some latent, testosterone fueled, macho segment of my pride that I've never been able to fully control. She can't climb out of the truck without falling on her head, and *she* could do it. So against my better judgment, I strapped myself onto a board and began my ballet-like decent. It didn't go well.

Snowboarding is fundamentally flawed in that both feet are completely strapped together. If someone suggested that you tried boxing in handcuffs, you'd politely decline. If someone said, "Let's go swimming; but first, let's chain ourselves up Houdini style and tie bowling balls to our shorts!" you'd likely pass. I've done a fair bit of skateboarding, and there is comfort in the knowledge that if all else fails, you can save yourself by hopping off the board and running to a stop. Not so on a snowboard. Any attempt to follow your natural instinct to put a foot down for balance will result in a face plant and the associated yard sale. In fact, any attempt at recovery, stopping, steering, turning, or even blinking will result in a collar full of



snow; and trees are almost never made out of Nerf.

So basically, I'm awful at it, and it was the first time it had occurred to my children that their father might not be good at something. Up until now, I've managed to hoodwink them into thinking the old man was some kind of superhero sports guy, but this was a complete public disaster. My dad says to get used to it.

The plan is that from now on, I'll stick to sports like golf where I'm mediocre or better. Hopefully, the kids will forget about this in a couple of weeks. Half the time they can't remember where their feet are, so the odds are good. As for me, I have a 20 year high school reunion coming up this year, and I'll have some new found empathy for some late picks on the playground.





SKYWAY
LAWN EQUIPMENT LIMITED
DEDICATED TO SERVICE

154 Upper Centennial Parkway
(HWY 20)
Stoney Creek, Ontario,
Canada L8J 2T7

Telephone 905-662-2663 • Fax 905-662-2253
CAN-USA 1-800-263-8606


TRANSPORTATION
& UTILITY VEHICLES


Express Dual
& AngleMaster
Reel Mower
Sharpeners


Seed Establishment Mulch



890 Fairground Rd. R.R. #4 Langton Ont. N0E 1G0
Phone (519) 875-4094 Fax (519) 875-4095
Website: mastersturfsupply.com
email: mastersturf@uniserve.com

Getting The Most Out Of Your Employees

by Colin Young,

Recipient of the 2004 Hugh Kirkpatrick Bursary

There is a saying in team oriented tasks, "You can have all the knowledge in the world but if you don't have the horses you will never be successful." A greens department on a golf course is a huge team operation. The superintendent can know everything that is needed to know to run a successful, manicured golf course, however if there is no team you will never be successful. There is a lot that goes into making a good team. My job, as a second assistant superintendent, at Weston Golf & Country Club, is to be the right hand man of our assistant superintendent, Neil Tandan and to Rob Ackermann our superintendent. One of these tasks is to help build a good team and get the most out of our employees. I need to recognize different personalities, set goals, keep employees interested and maintain a healthy working environment, all at the same time meeting Neil and Rob's demands.

Being an assistant superintendent, you need to be able to manage people well. A huge part in managing people is being able to distinguish different personality traits and different skills. What I mean by personality traits is how different people will react to different situations, how they interact with certain people and how they will work together. I have to know how to

give instruction and proper criticism to different employees according to their character. Also, I need to be able to recognize different skills for different tasks to achieve the best results.

A big instrument that I like to use in trying to get the most out of my employees is setting goals for them to strive for. Employees need goals because a goal will help them to have fun and give them a challenge or purpose. This will provoke them to do their job. I let every employee know that every assignment that is given is important and contributes to the success of our operation. Following up with employees work, by showing them the outcome of their task and letting them know they have done a good job and achieved the goal, will keep them motivated.

Keeping employees interested in the job is very important. If they are not interested they will never become motivated. Every time I hand out an assignment I like to explain exactly the purpose and how to accomplish the desired outcome. From doing divots to spraying pesticides, every job out on the golf course is important. A lot of employees feel differently when given a simple task like divot seeding. It is my job to make sure employees know that every

job that is given has a purpose and is as important as the next job. We also try to train everyone on different tasks, because it not only gives us flexibility it keeps employees interested. Being on the same job day after day gets repetitive and employees will definitely lose interest.

Finally, I feel to get the most out of your employees you need to create a healthy working environment. What I mean by this, is making your employees want to come to work. It is so much easier to hand out an assignment to someone who is in a good mood. Cracking jokes and having some fun will lighten up the atmosphere. At the same time, along with Neil, it is my duty to make sure Rob's demands are met.

Having a good turf team makes managing so much easier. This is true for all managers. For instance when playing hockey when we had a good team our coach sometimes didn't even have to come out to practice. He knew that we would work hard no matter if he was there or not and we knew what to do without even him telling us. Managing a good team by knowing individual personalities, skills, setting goals, keeping them interested and maintaining a healthy working environment, ensures that myself and Neil will never have problems meeting Rob's ultimatums.

Looking back

35 YEARS AGO TO-DAY

by Barry Endicott, Superintendent
Banty's Roost Golf Club

The following were elected to the 1970 Board of Directors of the OGSA at the annual meeting: **John Grightmire** (president), **John Arends** (vice-president), **Bill Hynd**, **Helmut Kopp**, **Bob Heron** (treasurer), **Ron Allen**, **Bob Lamb**, **Bernie MacDonald**, **Ross Haines**, **Jim Wyllie**, **Frank Dunn**, and **Allen Jones** (past president).

Meetings were held at Tam O'Shanter, **Carl Sellers** and the IBM Country Club, **Reg Stannard**. Sixty people attended the Galt Field Day, with **Dr. Eggens** and **Dr. Switzer** speaking on their projects at the turf plots. Forty golfers teed off with **Bill Hynd**, 74 gross, and **Bill Bond**, 75 gross, leading the pack. The Greens Chairman-Superintendent Golf Day was held on July 23rd at the Aurora

Highlands, with 100 participants. Winners were: low gross, **Doug** and **Keith Nesbit**; and low net, **Dave Gourlay** and **Frank Russell**.

New Members were: **M. Shymanski**, **W. Shea**, **T. Ralph**, **Clare Witton** and **Carl Bennet**. Members on the move were **John Grightmire** to Rosedale from Beverley G.C. and **Roy French** from Lookout Point to Beverley.

Twenty-five turf managers completed the first winter short course in Turf Management, at the University Of Guelph. They were **Paul Scenna**, Waterloo GC; **Weston Kastes**, Dundee; **Courtney Abblett** (assistant), Pine Valley; **Doug Suter**, Credit Valley; **Ed Charman**, Toronto Ladies; **David Stevens**, Beaverbrook; **John Arends**, Hawthorne Valley; **Paul Weidmark**,

(assistant) **IBM**; **Dave Gourlay**, Thornhill; **Keith Brown**, Glen Lawrence; **Ian McBean**, St. Claire Comm.; **Al Beeney**, North Halton; **Charles Behm**, Cherry Ridgeway; **Barry McIntosh**, Cedarbrae; **Frank Watts**, Case Van Wees; **Gord Witteveen**, Northwood; **Wm. Lantz**, Guelph; **Stew Mills**, Glendale; **R. Parkinson** and **Ron Weir**, Pine Valley.

The 61st Canadian Open was held at the London Hunt and **Morley Findlay** was the superintendent.

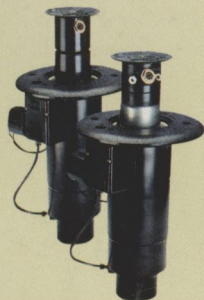
Fire strikes twice at the maintenance building in a period of less than 1 week. It was suspected that a fire bug was responsible and ironically the members at York Downs were to vacate the premises by the end of October and move their new 27 hole course.



TURF CARE



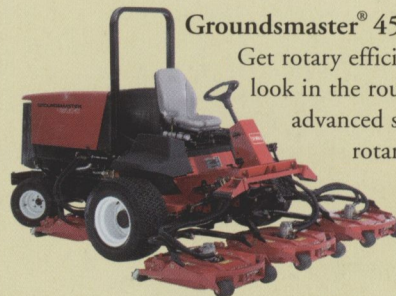
**Look at things differently.
Do them better.**



Toro® 800S Series Sprinkler: Put the water just where you want it. Precision control is made possible with predictable head rotation and uniform nozzle distribution.



Spike-Guard Solenoid: Spend less time replacing sprinklers with more than 20,000 volts of lightning protection.

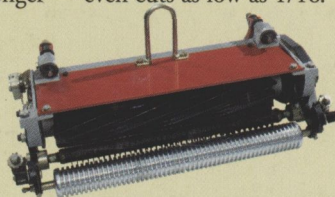


Groundsmaster® 4500-D/4700-D: Get rotary efficiency and a great look in the rough with the advanced striping rotary decks.



Smart OSMAC®: Delivers stand-alone capability for OSMAC during grow-in and new construction prior to central installation.

Riding Greensmaster® Cutting Unit: Easy Dual Point Adjustment holds longer — even cuts as low as 1/16"



Powered Rear Roller Brushes: Evenly disperse grass clippings in wet conditions to eliminate clumping.

Turf Care Products Canada

200 PONY DRIVE, NEWMARKET, ONTARIO L3Y 7B6 • PHONE (905) 836-0988

FAX (905) 836-6442

London

Ph: (519) 668-7664 Fax: (519) 668-3722

Mississauga

Ph: (905) 890-6290 Fax: (905) 890-5598

Scarborough

Ph: (416) 298-2101 Fax: (416) 298-8758

Gloucester

Ph: (613) 822-1881 Fax: (613) 822-2099

Toro designs new products to perform better and give you more control over your budget, labour and water resources. Call your Turf Care representative today to find out how you can acquire the products that can set new standards at your course.

TORO.

Count on it.

www.turfcare.ca