

# Green is Beautiful

The Official Publication of Ontario Golf Superintendents' Association

July 2007

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## WATER WISE - WATER WOES

Inside this Issue...  
**Biological Herbicides?**  
**OGSA Event Summaries**  
**The GTI Turns 20**

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# President's message

## Elevate your profile!

As the date approaches early July, the dog days of summer are upon us. We should all be preparing ourselves and our golf courses for the tough months ahead. We spend a lot of time and effort preconditioning our golf courses for these challenging times, but do we spend enough time thinking about our positions and career? Do you feel like your club owners, directors, and members understand exactly what you do? If you don't tell them, who will?

First and foremost, we should all step back and examine our role as a golf course superintendent. We prepare the golf course on a daily basis for the enjoyment of our members and golfing public. The success of your golf course depends on it! The success of your career depends on it! It's a simple message, but it's important for us not to forget our ultimate goals and the objective of ourselves and our respective golf clubs.

Communicating with your membership or golfing public should be objective number one. Drive the golf course on a busy day, talk to members or golfing public, play golf with your members, communicate your message, and make them understand. It is important for you to understand, that it is their golf course and we provide an exceptional golf experience. Don't hide in the barn! It is very important for them to understand how much education, planning, professionalism, hard work, and science goes into providing great golf conditions.

A combination of all of these things will elevate our positions not only at our own respective clubs but in the industry as well. One of the Ontario Golf Superintendents' Association's objectives in 2007 is to raise the profile of the golf course superintendent. Hopefully, you all had a chance to see the recent ad that we ran in Ontario Golf Magazine, and for those that did, we thank you all for your positive feedback. We will be running another later this summer. If you have any suggestions with respect to the ad, please feel free to forward your ideas to any OGSA director.

I would also like to extend many thanks on behalf of the Ontario Golf Superintendents' Association to our recent golf events hosts, Ken Wright from Devil's Pulpit and Rick Lane from Ariss Valley, for providing exceptional playing conditions. Our thanks also goes to their club officials and staff alike. On behalf of Coppinwood, we look forward to hosting all participants for the Presidents' Day on July 3<sup>rd</sup>.

In closing, I would like to thank Trevor Clapperton for his years of board service since 2005. Trevor has recently accepted a position with the Town of Port Hope and will be leaving the board in the very near future. Trevor, good luck with your new position and I wish you and your family well. I would also like to take this opportunity to wish our membership and their respective clubs a successful summer. As you drive around your golf course at sunrise we should all recognize how lucky we are and how much we contribute to the game of golf. Be very PROUD.



by Sean DeSilva,  
Coppinwood Golf Club



### ONTARIO GOLF SUPERINTENDENTS' ASSOCIATION

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# Contents

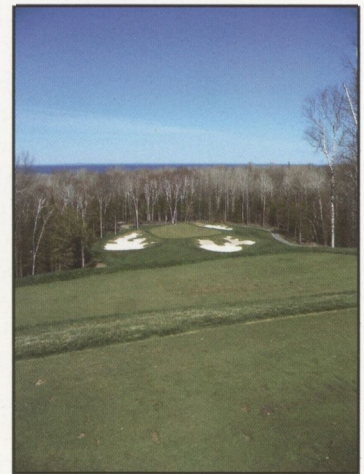
<b>WATER WISE - WATER WOES .....</b>	<b>16</b>
Above the hole .....	22
Antique alley.....	25
Editorial message .....	5
From roots to shoots .....	9
Golf course highlight - Ariss Valley Golf & CC .....	15
Guelph Turfgrass Institute celebrates its 20th anniversary .....	8
Health & safety .....	10
Looking back .....	29
Member profile - Chris Andrejicka .....	13
On the reel side of things .....	26
President's message .....	3
Pro/Super Challenge 2007.....	11
Spring Field Day .....	14
Telus World Skins Returns to Ontario .....	24
The Fraz.....	18
Turf or consequences .....	30
University of Guelph update .....	20
What's new.....	6

# Advertisers

<b>Agrium Advanced Technologies - Grigg Bros .....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Agrium Advanced Technologies - NuGro Golf .....</b>	<b>26, 31</b>
<b>Almack Agronomic Services Inc .....</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Aquatrols .....</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Bartlett Tree Experts - Canada.....</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Bayer Environmental Science - Compass .....</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Braemar Building Systems.....</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Burnside Golf Services .....</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>DCS Agronomic Services .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>DolTurf .....</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Douglas Wood Large Tree Services .....</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Engage Agro - Sentator - WSB .....</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Fast Forest.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Green Horizons Group of Farms.....</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Growers Choice.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>H &amp; M Turf Ltd.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Manderley Turf Products Inc. ....</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Maple Turf Supply .....</b>	<b>22, 26</b>
<b>Maple Turf Supply - Uflex .....</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Master's Turf Supply Ltd. ....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Ontario Seed Company Ltd. ....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Skyway Lawn Equipment Limited.....</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Syngenta - Scimitar CS .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Syngenta - Subdue Maxx .....</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Turf Care Products Canada - Irrigation Div.....</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Turf Care Products Canada.....</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>Vanden Bussche Irrigation .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Zander Sod Co. Limited.....</b>	<b>19</b>

# Green is Beautiful

The Official Publication of Ontario Golf Superintendents' Association



## COVER PICTURE

Paper Birch on the 15th

Raven at Lora Bay

*Photo by John Bladon*

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

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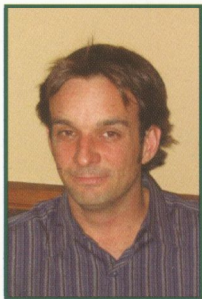
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## Editorial message




by John Bladon  
Co-Editor

Although temperatures have been inconsistent over the past few weeks going from hot and humid to cold and windy, the summer stress period is upon us. Over the coming months we will all be relying on one of our most precious resources, water, to keep ourselves and turfgrass in prime health.

With water in mind, we have some submissions on the subject matter including a piece on irrigation efficiencies, a second on the use of effluent sources and finally one from Mr. Doug Breen reminding us of the "good old" days of irrigation and how fortunate we are to have automation as one of the tools in our toolbelt. The event season is also in full swing and we have summaries from The Pro/Super, The Fraz and The Spring Field Day. At the recent Spring Field Day, the association recognized *Green Is Beautiful* contributors and editorial committee members for their continued support of the magazine. Authors such as Doug Breen, Daisy Moore, Pam Charbonneau and Doug Johnson have been longtime and tireless contributors to

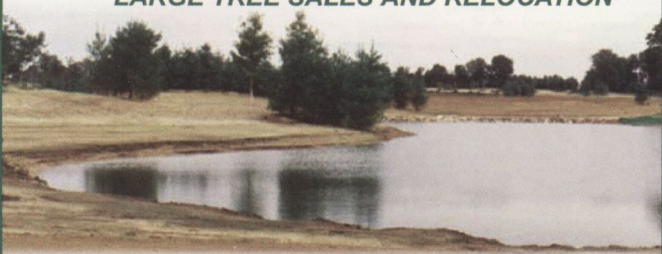
the magazine and have done so on a volunteer basis. How fortunate we all are to have their musings to read month after month! Also, event newsworthy, The Telus World Skins game returned to Ontario after a three year absence and we congratulate OGSA member Chris LeCour and his team on the successful hosting of this event. The Raven at Lora Bay was indeed shining! With municipal pesticide pressures unrelenting, Pam Charbonneau brings us an update on a new biological product that has recently been registered for weed control, while Dr. Eric Lyons gives us some food for thought on maximizing the use of a budget. Lastly, congratulations to Doug Meyer, Turf Manager at Beaconsfield for winning the "Turf Tip" contest. We have enclosed photos and a summary of Doug's tip for your interest.

The editorial committee continues to seek articles and photos for future issues and our membership can benefit greatly from the most basic information so please, don't be shy. Feel free to drop Dorothy, Chris or myself a line and share something that you think may be of interest to your fellow members. We really want your input!




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# What's new

## OGSA Turf Tip Contest

Congratulations to Doug Meyer, MS, CGC, Turf Manager, Beaconsfield Golf Club, in Pointe-Claire, Quebec for submitting a turf tip. Doug is the lucky winner of \$100 worth of OGSA merchandise. Here is the tip Doug submitted. Keep this one in mind for when next spring rolls around.

### Easy Removal of Green Tarps In Spring

All turf managers know how frustrating it is to roll up green covers in the spring. Our crews suffer from "tarp fingers" after hauling and rolling heavy tarps off the greens. For about \$2,000.00 your mechanic can make a tarp roller that can be mounted on a tractor. Our hydraulic powered roller makes removing tarps neater and easier to store and unroll in the fall, as well as making the job easier on the crew.



We would like to thank all those who participated in the contest and to remind you that even though the contest is over, we welcome any turf tips you would like to submit for posting on our web site.

## Mark Your Calendars

### TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

We will be booking venues for 2008 and 2009 events, if there are any golf course superintendents who would like to have an event at their course, please contact either directors Jennifer Pendrith [jpendrith@kawarthagolf.ca](mailto:jpendrith@kawarthagolf.ca) Chris Andrejicka [chrisa@essexgolf.com](mailto:chrisa@essexgolf.com) or Dorothy Hills [ogsa@gti.uoguelph.ca](mailto:ogsa@gti.uoguelph.ca)



**OGSA ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT TOURNAMENT**  
HOSTED BY THE BRIARS GOLF CLUB, SUTTON WEST  
DATE: TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2007

**OGSA ALEX McCLUMPHA**  
**MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT**  
HOSTED BY PETERBOROUGH  
GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB  
DATE: MONDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2007

**CANADIAN OPEN**  
HOSTED BY ANGUS GLEN  
DATE: JULY 23rd – 29th

Please note that the Royal Canadian Golf Association has initiated a standing policy regarding complimentary admittance to the Canadian Open. This policy states that national level golf associations only will be given complimentary access to the Canadian Open. As the OGSA is a provincial association our members will not be afforded complimentary access.

**ONTARIO TURF RESEARCH FOUNDATION**  
**FUNDRAISING TOURNAMENT**  
HOSTED BY GEORGIAN BAY CLUB, COLLINGWOOD  
DATE: MONDAY, AUGUST 20, 2007

Note: The OTRF tournament is not an OGSA event. Please contact Debbie Conrad for details at (519) 824-4120 x56149 or email: [otrf@gti.uoguelph.ca](mailto:otrf@gti.uoguelph.ca)



## 1<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL SENIORS GOLF TOURNAMENT

HOSTED BY DOUG SUTER  
& ALAN BEENEY  
MONO HILLS GOLF CLUB,  
MONO TWP, ON

DATE: THURSDAY, AUGUST 16, 2007

**OPEN TO all current and former  
OGSA Members, Associates, Life  
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over the age of 50.**

**ENTRY DEADLINE AUGUST 1, 2007**

Details: 9:00 a.m. - 10:45 - Registration  
11:00 a.m. - Shotgun  
4:30 - 5:30 p.m. - Social Hour  
5:30 p.m. - Steak Dinner

Cost: \$50.00 per person includes 18  
holes, cart, lunch, dinner & prizes  
• Entry limited to first 60 players

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OGSA event registrations and details will  
be posted to the website  
[www.golfsupers.on.ca](http://www.golfsupers.on.ca) under the menu  
heading "Events". Check out both the  
"Calendar of Events" and the actual  
"Event" pages. We will also notify you in  
our email bulletin, "Clippings" when  
registration forms are available.

The Regional associations are invited to  
send their tournament information into  
the OGSA office and we will post it in  
our "Calendar of Events" on the website.



**Welcome!**  
**OGSA Welcomes**  
**our newest members**

**Curtis Bondy** Class C  
Sutton Creek Golf & CC

**Mark Bruin** Class C  
Muskoka Bay Club

**Brad Halyk** Class A  
Sundrim Golf Club

**Tammy Houle** Class F  
Humber Valley GC

**Paul Snider** Class C  
Owen Sound G & CC

## ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE BOARD



*OGSA would like to  
announce the appointment of*

**Scott Heron,**  
Superintendent at  
Bigwin Island Golf Club,  
to the OGSA Board of Directors.

Scott will be filling the vacancy  
left by Trevor Clapperton, as a  
Director of Golf Events and will  
remain on the board as an  
appointee until the election of  
directors in 2009.

Scott brings with him a wealth  
of information and experience,  
and we take this opportunity to  
welcome him aboard.



## 2007 FUNDRAISING GOLF TOURNAMENT



**The Ontario Turfgrass  
Research Foundation**

**Invites you to attend their  
Annual Fundraising Golf  
Tournament hosted by**

**Georgian Bay Club,  
Collingwood, ON**

**Monday August 20, 2007  
12:30 P.M. Shot Gun  
preceded by registration and  
buffet lunch**

**For registration details or to  
inquire about sponsorship  
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**OTRF office at  
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# GUELPH TURFGRASS INSTITUTE CELEBRATES ITS 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

by Rob Witherspoon, GTI Director



This year marks the 20th anniversary of the founding of the Guelph Turfgrass Institute. The GTI was officially created by the University of Guelph on February 17, 1987 to "promote an interdisciplinary approach to the research, education and extension programs in turfgrass science at the University of Guelph."

The original idea for the GTI came about when the University of Guelph hosted the International Turfgrass Research Conference on campus in 1981. In addition to outside guests, the conference brought together all of the faculty and staff at Guelph who had an interest in turf. It took a few years for the concept to take root, but eventually the idea for the GTI was born and came to fruition in 1987. The idea was quickly grasped by turfgrass industry leaders and following a very successful fundraising campaign, the G.M. Frost Research & Education Centre was built and the GTI moved to its current location to the east of the main university campus.

Dr. Clayton Switzer wrote and recorded a historical narrative that was shown at the Ontario Turfgrass Symposium opening session this past February. We hope to have the presentation up on our website soon. The main celebration of the 20th anniversary will take place at an Open House planned for Thursday, August 16th from noon to 8 p.m. The event is open to the industry and public and will feature informal tours of the research plots, viewing of the annual trial gardens, food, entertainment and much more. Mark your calendar now and watch for more details here as we get closer to the date [www.uoguelph.ca/gti](http://www.uoguelph.ca/gti)

## GTI Lands Update

While the provincial government has confirmed it will permit the GTI to remain at its current location until at


least 2018 when the lease with the Ontario Turfgrass Research Foundation expires, the OTRF and GTI Advisory Board are working hard to gain longer term security for turfgrass research and education programs on this site.

In the meantime, the province is undertaking a study of the York District lands in conjunction with an ongoing City of Guelph planning exercise looking at the area. It should be noted that the GTI lands are only a small portion of the greater York District lands which includes the former provincial reformatory. A consulting firm headed by former Winnipeg Mayor Glen Murray is conducting the study.

The first stage of the study involved engaging a roundtable of citizens to provide possible ideas for further development of the lands. The GTI lands were excluded from this process although the OTRF and the GTI Advisory Board have collaborated to present a report to the consultants outlining the added value a facility like the GTI can add to further development of the York District.

The consultants presented the results of their roundtable findings at a town hall public meeting on Monday, June 18th at 7:00 p.m. in the conference room of the OMAFRA building at One Stone Road in Guelph. They have collected public responses from this meeting, conducted some research of their own, and will be presenting their refined findings at a second town hall meeting at the same location on Monday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>. If you are in the area and interested in the process, you are welcome to attend and express your opinion and ideas on the best use of these lands.

For more detailed information on the York District Lands Study, go to [York District, City of Guelph Project](#).

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## From roots to shoots



by Pam Charbonneau  
OMAF Turfgrass Specialist

### NEW ORGANIC HERBICIDE NOW REGISTERED IN CANADA

Many of you may remember hearing about research being conducted on a biological control for dandelions over the past decade. Some of this work was conducted at the University of Guelph in the late 1990's and the research was continued at McGill University by Dr. Alan Watson until now. In May of this year, the company that was founded in 2004, in collaboration with McGill University, Sarritor Inc., announced that it has received federal regulatory approval for a natural weed control product based on the fungus *Sclerotinia minor*. The product name is Sarritor. Its registration is very timely, with more and more municipalities in Canada banning traditional herbicides for use on home lawns. To my knowledge, most municipalities with pesticide bans have an exempt list that allows the use of biological controls for pests, so this product will most likely be able to be used in municipalities that currently have pesticide by-laws.

*Sclerotinia minor* is a naturally occurring fungus and is indigenous to Canada. When applied to a dandelion, the fungus attacks the weed, weakening it until it dies. Once the weed is gone, the fungus disappears. All grass types have a natural defense mechanism against this fungus, so they cannot be harmed. The fungus does not have any toxicological

effects, does not produce spores and does not persist in the environment.

Because this product is a biological control, it does have some more specific application requirements than the chemical broadleaf herbicides that we are used to dealing with. Some of those specifics include:

Applying the product on days where the daytime high is around 18 – 24° C. If there hasn't been any rain in the 12 hours preceding an application, it is recommended to irrigate the lawn to ensure the product works effectively. Avoid applying the product during hot and dry days.

The product can be applied any time during the day provided the temperature is not above 25° C.

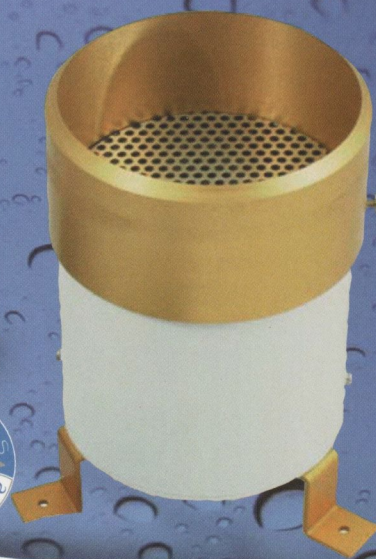
Unlike traditional chemical herbicides, the product can be applied in the rain. The product requires moisture to work effectively and it will work better on rainy days.

Currently Sarritor Inc. Are organizing large-scale field trials in Eastern Canada for the spring of 2007. They expect to have enough product available for widespread distribution in late 2009 or early 2010. This is very timely news for the turf industry in Ontario and this product will no doubt find its way into the golf course market as well as the home lawn market. For more information on the product and the company you can visit their web site at [www.sarritor.ca](http://www.sarritor.ca).

I Love a Rainy Night...

# Rain Bird RainWatch!

## Why Irrigate in the Rain?

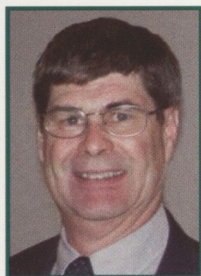


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by Doug Johnson  
SAFETAID - Health and  
Safety Consulting

## Avoid Heat Stress By Staying Cool At Work

It only seems like a few weeks ago that we were complaining about the cold and now we are talking about excessive heat! The hot summer season puts indoor and outdoor workers at risk. The Ontario Labour Minister, Steve Peters, is reminding employers and workers to be aware of the occupational health and

safety dangers of heat stress and to protect themselves at work.

**“As we approach the summer season, we can expect an increase in heat and humidity which puts both indoor and outdoor workers at risk”, said Peters. “Employers and workers need to work together to be aware of the symptoms of heat stress and they must put the necessary safeguards in place to protect themselves.”**

When heat is combined with other stresses like hard physical work, fluid loss, fatigue or some medical conditions, it can lead to heat-related illness, disability and even death. Heat stress can affect anyone, including the young and fit, and can be a concern in many workplaces. For indoor workers, major sources of heat are motorized equipment, bakeries, ovens and physical exertion. For outdoor workers, direct sunlight is the main source of heat.

Humidity also adds to the discomfort of high temperatures. As employers and workers it is important to be aware of the humidex readings, as knowing this information will assist you in implementing measures to deal with heat stress.

Symptoms of heat stress can include:

- Rash
- Sunburn
- Cramping
- Fainting
- Excessive sweating
- Headache and dizziness

If you are working in a hot environment, you should drink lots of fluids to replace perspiration. Try to drink a cup of water about every 20 minutes. This should equate to approximately six to eight glasses of water per day.

When possible, try to:

- Avoid working in direct sunlight.
- Reduce the pace of work.
- Increase the number of breaks and take breaks in cool or shaded areas.
- Schedule heavy work for cooler periods of the day.
- Wear light-coloured and/or light-weight clothing.
- Reduce the physical demands of work by using aides, such as hoists, mechanical handling equipment, wheeled carts or dollies.
- Get help if you must move heavy materials. An extra pair of hands will reduce the potential for heat stress.

Employers have a duty under the Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHSA) to “take every precaution reasonable in the circumstances for the protection of a worker”. This includes ensuring a worker is protected from heat stress by developing and implementing hot environment policies and procedures.

Most workplaces don’t have “hot processes” but working in hot weather can pose health risks to their workers. For hot work environments due to hot weather, a hot weather plan is appropriate. A hot weather plan should establish the implementation criteria, or triggers, to put the plan into effect. The criteria may include weather/environmental indicator triggers such as:

- Humidex reaching or exceeding 35° Celsius.
- Environment Canada weather reports; and/or
- Heat waves (*three or more days of temperatures of 32° or more*).

Generally, plans related to hot weather should be in place between May 1 and September 30 of each year.

**“Heat stress is a constant and important workplace health and safety issue,” said Peters. “Employers and workers should work together to ensure they are working smart and staying cool.”** For more information, please see the ministry’s Heat Stress Guideline at: [www.labour.gov.on.ca/english/hs/guidelines/gl\\_heat.html](http://www.labour.gov.on.ca/english/hs/guidelines/gl_heat.html)

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# PRO/SUPER CHALLENGE 2007

## DEVILLISHLY DIFFERENT

photos by Trevor Clapperton

Seventy teams enjoyed the warm hospitality and superb golfing conditions of the Devil's Pulpit for the 2007 Pro/Super Challenge. The course has been lavished with praise for its scenery and spectacular setting on 315 acres of the Niagara Escarpment. Devil's Pulpit defines all that's exciting in modern golf design, providing strategic challenge, rambunctious topography, wondrous natural beauty and imaginative features.

Our thanks go to Superintendent, Ken Wright and his staff for the exceptional playing experience. Head Pro, Ray Lange was a gracious host and his staff did a wonderful job.

The champions from Credit Valley Golf and Country Club, Superintendent Jeff Stauffer and Golf Professional, Ian Webb gladly accepted the trophy, presented by OGSA Director, Chris Andrejicka.



1st tee at the Pulpit



Host Superintendent Ken Wright (L) and host Professional Ray Lange (R)



Chris Andrejicka (R) presents the trophy to the winning team of Ian Webb (L) and Jeff Stauffer (C)

### Pro/Super Challenge Champions

#### Gross

1st	Credit Valley Golf & Country Club (68)
2nd	Innerkip Highlands Golf Club (73)
3rd	Summit Golf Club (74)

#### Superintendent

Jeff Stauffer
Randy Dick
Phil Brown

#### Golf Professional

Ian Webb
Richard Demeester
Tom Price

#### Net

1st	Devil's Pulpit Golf Assn (68)
2nd	The Cutten Club (69)
3rd	Mad River Golf Club (70)

Ken Wright
David Kuypers
Ray Richards

Ray Lange
Todd McGrath
Brian French

#### Closest to the Pin:

#3	Rick Lane, Ariss Valley Golf Club (Superintendent)
#16	Jeff Palmer, Raven at Lora Bay Golf Club (Golf Professional)





Sink hole on one of the sand capped fairways at Muskoka Bay Golf Club.  
Photo taken by Superintendent, Chris Goodman



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# Member profile

## Interview with Chris Andrejicka

by John Bladon

Agrium Advanced Technologies

Not unlike many of us who have decided to work in the golf maintenance business, it started similarly for Chris Andrejicka, playing the game of golf. There is however, one difference between most of us and Chris. He can REALLY play this game. Chris actually grew up around the game, living along the 18<sup>th</sup> fairway at Pine Valley and watched in the early 70's as Tom Fazio reworked the golf course into the top ranked National we now know today.

His first exposure to turfgrass management happened prior to high school ending. While playing relentlessly, Chris went to work on the golf maintenance team at the National. In 1980, and with high school completed, golf called and he received a full scholarship to New Mexico State along with current touring pros Tom Byrum and Bart Bryant. After 2 years at NM, Chris came to the realization that he had to make education his priority and he transferred to Simon Fraser University to complete his degree in economics. His degree in hand, he then returned home and to work at the National while completing turfgrass management studies at the University of Guelph. Still equipped with a US visa, and wanting some experience away from the National, Chris then spent time at the Pete Dye designed, Long Cove Club in Hilton Head until his visa expired. At this stage, mentor Ken Wright called and Chris was granted the assistant superintendent post at the National where he remained until 1989.

Do any of you remember playing a new board game called Trivial Pursuit in the 80's? With the profits from Trivial Pursuit soaring, and principals Chris Haney and Scott Abbott wanting to build golf, Chris accompanied Ken to the Devil's Pulpit and Devil's Paintbrush projects. After six years in Caledon, Chris took the superintendent position he has held for 13 years and holds to this day at Essex Golf and Country Club. A career highlight since joining Essex Chris lists hosting the 1998 LPGA Canadian Open and playing in the Pro-Am with professional Stephania Croce.

Chris lives in Windsor with wife, Linda, daughter Laura, 13 and son Eric, 10. Away from the golf course, Chris enjoys spending time around the pool with his family and watching his son play hockey. Finally, Chris has some words of wisdom for the next generation of superintendents.

*"You can't grow grass from an office! Get out and be on your golf course both managing and playing it. Be proactive and interact with members/players...they are your customer!"*

Words of wisdom indeed.



Photo by Dorothy Hills

### "In the Hot Seat"

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| • Favourite major:                                       | British Open  |
| • Best piece of turf equipment ever:                     | Toro ProCore Aerator                                |
| • Favourite architect:                                   | New-Fazio, Old-Ross                                 |
| • Ultimate foursome:                                     | Andrejicka, Stadler, Price, Nicklaus                |
| • Lowest round ever and where:                           | 70, The National                                    |
| • Favourite meal:  | 10oz NY steak, potatoes, asparagus and Caesar salad |
| • What's in your CD right now:                           | Steely Dan  |
| • What would you be if not a golf course superintendent: | Tour Professional                                   |



# SPRING FIELD DAY

The Ariss Valley Golf and Country Club was the venue for this year's Spring Field Day tournament. Those who were fortunate enough to play in the Spring Field Day were greeted by a beautiful sunny day. Superintendent, Rick Lane and his staff had the course in prime condition for our event. Special thanks also go to Golf Pro, Paul Cotey and Executive Chef, Adam DiSario for their assistance with this event. Located in the scenic, rolling landscape of the Ariss Valley, the Pines and Willows courses provided challenge for both beginners and skilled golfers alike, with the valley's creek winding through several holes.



*The Girls: Kerry Whale, Judy Johnson, Jennifer Antoniak, Tracy Fowler  
Photo by Jason Hanna*

Prior to the BBQ luncheon, we had an opportunity to welcome Dr. Eric Lyons, Assistant Professor in the Department of Plant Agriculture at the University of Guelph. He gave a brief update on research and plans for future work within the golf industry.

OGSA Director Trevor Clapperton welcomed our Regional Association guests and recognized the volunteer efforts they bring to their respective regional associations, making a difference in promoting our profession in this every changing golf industry. Should you require information about an Ontario Regional Association you can contact the following persons:

<i>Kennedy Court</i>	Northern Ontario Golf Superintendents Association
<i>John Bontje</i>	Georgian Bay Golf Superintendents Association
<i>John Taylor</i>	Western Ontario Golf Superintendents Association
<i>Sean Evelyn</i>	Lake Simcoe Greenkeepers

<i>Randy Hooper</i>	Kent Essex Greenkeeper's Society
<i>Todd Russell</i>	Ottawa Valley Turfgrass Association
<i>Timothy Schaly</i>	Eastern Ontario Golf Superintendents Association
<i>Mark Hagan</i>	Greater London & Area Association

*Green is Beautiful's* Co-editor, Chris Andrejicka took the mike to express our thanks to the regular contributors and the Editorial Committee for their continued support of OGSA's official publication. Without their volunteered efforts, it would not be possible to produce this magazine. If anyone has anything they would like to contribute to the magazine you can contact any member of the Editorial Committee, listed on page 3 of the magazine

## Flight A - Superintendents

## Flight B - Assistants, Associates & Guests

### Gross - Flight A

1st	Chris Andrejicka (74)
2nd	Bruce Burger (75)
3rd	Dave DeCorso (78)

### Gross - Flight B

1st	Dave Schmelefske (73)
2nd	Mike Kehoe (74)
3rd	Tim Steen (76)

### Net - Flight A

1st	Dave Moon (64)
2nd	John Bontje (64) (tie broken by score on #1 Pines)
3rd	Kennedy Court (67)

### Net - Flight B

1st	Rocco DiPasquale (65)
2nd	Ron Biggs (66)
3rd	Chuck Barber (67)

## Closest to the Pin - Flight A - Dave DeCorso

## Closest to the Pin - Flight B - Gary Tate

## Longest Drive - Flight A - Barry Endicott

## Longest Drive - Flight B - Darryl McIntyre



# Golf course highlight

## Ariss Valley Golf & Country Club

5700 Road #86, R.R.#1

Ariss ON N0B 1B0

Phone: (519) 824-1551 Fax: (519) 824-6873

Website: [www.arissvalley.com](http://www.arissvalley.com)

Golf Course Superintendent:

**Rick Lane**

Email: [arissvalley@bellnet.ca](mailto:arissvalley@bellnet.ca)



Photo by Jason Hanna

### COURSE PROFILE

What county is your club located in?  
Wellington

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

Size of Membership?  
50 - 100

Number of rounds?  
30,000 plus

Typical opening and closing date  
April to December

Name of Superintendent  
Rick Lane, CGCS

How long have you been a superintendent?  
6 years

How long have you been an OGSA member?  
5 years

How many year round staff?  
None

How many seasonal staff?  
15 seasonal

How many mechanics and assistants?  
Mechanic: Dave Lawrence  
Assistant: Scott Beckham

### COURSE STATISTICS

How many holes?  
27

What is the yardage from back & forward tees?  
Lakes: 2831/3005  
Willows: 2935/3199  
Pines: 2955/3199

How many bunkers?  
35

How many ponds, and/or water come into play? 19 in play  
14 ponds

What was the year of original construction?  
1993

What is the size of your maintenance shop?  
4,200 square feet

What type of irrigation system?  
Rainbird

What is the size of the greens, tees & fairways?  
Greens: 4 ½ acres  
Tees: 4 acres  
Fairways: 60 acres

What is your predominant grass?  
Greens: Poa Bent  
Tees and Fairways: Kentucky Bluegrass

How many USGA greens and loam greens?  
28 USGA

What is the predominant soil type?  
Sandy gravel with trace of clay

What equipment do you have in inventory?  
3 Greens King VI  
1 John Deere 2500  
1 John Deere 2243

1 Jacobsen 1900D  
1 John Deere Front Deck  
2 Lastec Articulator  
2 John Deere 3235  
1 Toro 5400  
1 Jacobsen 3400  
1 John Deere 1000 Aercore  
3 John Deere Gator  
3 Club Car Golf Carts  
3 Stihl Weedeaters  
1 Honda Weedeater  
1 Kabota Tractor L4310  
1 Case 275 Tractor  
1 International 2200 Loader Tractor  
1 Smithco Sprayer  
1 Toro Sandpro 14  
1 Meter Matic III Topdresser

### COURSE PROJECTS

What projects have you recently completed?  
Remodeled 3 holes including a par 4 island green  
Built 4 new greens  
Built 9 new bunkers

### LONG RANGE PLANS

What long range plans for renovation do you have in the next five years?  
Hopefully updating the irrigation system

### CHALLENGES

Are there any particular challenges you face with your property?  
50% manual irrigation  
50% automated irrigation



# Water Wise - Water Woes

## Water-Wise and Pound-Sensible

*Presented by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America*

Golf course superintendents are always looking for innovative ways to minimize the amount of water used on their courses. Efficient water use on golf courses is dependent upon several factors, most notably the irrigation practices of the turf manager and performance of the irrigation system.

Proper design and installation are critical for an irrigation system to perform effectively. Hydraulics, nozzle selection, control capabilities and climate all must be considered in the design process. The adjustment of pumps and regulators, and the replacement of worn nozzles or other damaged components must be ongoing.

Outdated systems present additional challenges as aging hardware results in major failures of pumps, controllers and mainlines, causing the loss of large areas of turf. To counter such problems, many superintendents make it a daily routine to spot standing water, repair leaks and adjust controllers – to correct areas that are too dry or too wet.

Techniques to maximize irrigation efficiency include adjusting sprinkler head spacing for uniform coverage, tailoring nozzle size to the soil texture and utilizing individual sprinkler head control to ensure flexible scheduling.

Turf professionals invest a great deal of time and money into superior irrigation systems to reduce the amount of water, as well as money, spent on the course.

What more can be done?

Some superintendents opt to upgrade hardware or invest in a completely new system altogether, while others have decided on irrigation auditors, who help budget management costs.

Applying a wetting agent ensures that water penetrates

the soil. Studies show that without a wetting agent, 30 to 70 percent of applied water never reaches the root of the plant. Wetting agents reduce the surface tension of the water being applied, reducing runoff and evaporation.

Another effective irrigation practice uses a central computer controller or satellite systems to manage irrigation. The central control and satellite control systems on the market today allow superintendents to budget water and determine which areas of the course have special irrigation needs. There are even systems that can be connected to weather and soil moisture monitors. These systems only water turf when necessary.

Whatever method is used, the golfer can be sure of one thing – the superintendent has dotted every “I” and crossed every “T” when it comes to resourcefully irrigating their course.

### KEY POINTS:

Efficient water use on golf courses is dependent upon several factors, most notably the irrigation practices of the turf manager and performance of the irrigation system.

Turf professionals invest a great deal of time and money into superior irrigation systems to reduce the amount of water, as well as money, spent on the course.

Proper design and installation are critical for an irrigation system to perform effectively.

Many superintendents make it a daily routine to spot standing water, repair leaks and adjust controllers

A central computer controller or satellite system can be used to manage irrigation.



## Water Woes: A New Solution for Golf Course

The availability of water is one of the greatest operational challenges facing many golf course superintendents. Considering 70 percent of the planet is made up of water, that may come as a surprise. But as the availability of water diminishes, its use for golf course irrigation is coming under more scrutiny. As a result, superintendents have begun to think outside the box when irrigating their courses.

Irrigation water can come from four sources: groundwater (wells), surface water (streams), storm water (runoff) and wastewater (effluent). The use of effluent water, or reclaimed water, offers one solution to the growing concern.

Effluent water, which is highly treated wastewater from a municipal treatment plant, is a growing source of golf course irrigation. Many superintendents have turned to this method as an alternative to clean water for irrigation. While most effluent water use is now voluntary, it is currently required in some arid Southwest regions.

A survey conducted in 1978 reported 26 respondents across the country then used recycled water. A recent survey conducted by the National Golf Foundation (NGF) reported approximately 13 percent of golf courses nationwide now use effluent irrigation sources, and this increased to 34 percent in the Southwest.

Wastewater may be available with or without cost, and the supply is typically consistent as long as people are showering and flushing toilets with regularity. The most common costs are for transporting it to the property. In addition, golf courses may be forced to accept a minimum daily volume regardless of need, making sufficient storage a potential expense.

Of course, treated wastewater carries some baggage, notably a dirty public image, which will vary with the nature of the source waters and the treatment technologies. Wastewater irrigation may also contribute to increased management costs in a variety of ways.

The greatest advantage of effluent is that the supply is rarely interrupted by a drought. The disadvantages vary, and can include high cost of delivery, poor water quality and the presence of regional/state/local operational restrictions that may be imposed. The problems are manageable with careful decisions made during construction and well thought out maintenance programs.

Some of the issues facilities must consider when using effluent:

- Water quality
- Nutrient content
- Climate and annual rainfall
- Regular monitoring of soil and water chemistry
- Budgeting appropriately
- Complying with local regulations

As technology advances and the availability of resources for irrigating golf courses diminishes, effluent water will become more of a standard in a superintendent's daily practices, offering an environmental-friendly solution to the ever-increasing water woes.

For more information regarding golf course maintenance and etiquette, contact your local superintendent or the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America at 800/472-7878 or [www.gcsaa.org](http://www.gcsaa.org).

### KEY POINTS:

Irrigation water can come from four sources: groundwater (wells), surface water (streams), storm water (runoff) and wastewater (effluent).

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While most effluent water use is now voluntary, it is currently required in some arid Southwest regions.



# THE FRAZ

Article by John Bladon  
Agrium Advanced Technologies

Canadian golf and golfers lost a great friend and supporter in 2000 when the Toronto Star's veteran golf writer Rick Fraser, known to golfing community as "The Fraz" passed away.

To perpetuate his memory, the Greater Toronto Area Golf Association has named it's annual Media Day, which promotes the Toronto Star Amateur and the Toronto Star Women's Amateur, in Rick's honour. This year's event was held at the beautiful Cedar Brae Golf and Country Club and host superintendent, Mike Ettles, presented us with a superbly conditioned product. The day, organized by Glenn "Goodie" Goodwin of the Star, and Honorary OGSA Member, salutes the sports journalists who have helped make the Greater Toronto Area the number one golf market in North America.



Legendary Canadian golfers Gary Cowan (L) and Marlene Streit, (C) join Glenn Goodwin, Founder and President of the Toronto Star  
photo by David Cooper, Toronto Star

Glenn has been a long and ardent supporter of the OGSA and our continued inclusion in this event allows us the opportunity to communicate with the top writers and broadcasters from the golf and sporting community. Often we talk amongst ourselves and our industry about our successes, however, this event represents a significant opportunity to see some of those stories reach beyond and potentially facilitate a greater understanding of our profession.



OGSA Directors with Glen Goodwin - (L-R) Randy Booker, Jeff Stauffer, Glenn Goodwin, Sean DeSilva and Jeff Alexander  
photo by John Bladon

Despite the rainy start, the turnout was good, and the weather cleared for an enjoyable day. Some of the representation at the 8<sup>th</sup> annual "Fraz" Media Day included: Jim Byers and Dave Perkins, The Toronto Star; Bob Feaver, Peterborough Examiner; Grant Fraser, Golf Access; Ian Hutchinson, Toronto Sun; Jim Kernohaghn, London Free Press; Brent Long, a freelance golf writer; Ted McIntyre, Ontario Golf Magazine and Marlene Streit, GTAGA Sr. Advisor.



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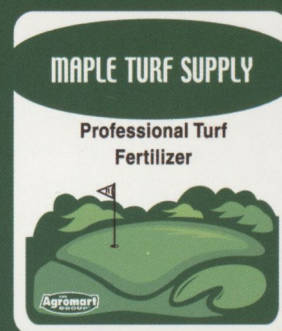
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# University of Guelph update



by Eric Lyons  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Plant  
Agriculture, U of G

The goal of turfgrass managers is to provide the best possible playing surface for the clientele. In doing this, turfgrass managers are given a wide array of budgets and rarely does the budget exceed what is necessary to keep up with expectations. This spring I have had the opportunity to play some beautiful smaller courses throughout Ontario. Many of these

rural nine-hole courses are truly gems and many of you maintaining them have found amazing ways to stretch your budget to maximize the golfer's enjoyment of your facility. This article will be aimed at finding ways to expand your budget and acquire tools that will help you do your job better. While the article is aimed primarily at courses with lower budgets I think the strategies listed here will be helpful for all superintendents looking to request additional funds to improve the course.

## Evaluate Needs

If you are seeking funds to improve the golf course, the most important step is a proper evaluation of the needs of the course. The tendency of golf course superintendents is to think big and cutting edge. This is not always the best strategy, instead it is often better to objectively analyze your operation as if you were an outside consultant and ask the question, "What recommendations could I make to improve this course with the least monetary input?" It is essential to start with the most pressing needs of the golf course. This will lead to the biggest difference in quality and the greatest chance of future investment into the maintenance budget. Success with early requests will lead to better golfing experiences and hopefully, greater future investment into the course. Simply put, happy golfers are repeat players. It is also important when evaluating the needs of your course not to let your personal desires over shadow the most pressing needs of the course. Requests must be made to benefit the course and not to fulfill your own personal desires. Often times the most pressing needs of a course may not be agronomic but rather a need for new trash cans or tee stands that will best improve the overall playing experience of the golfers.

## Proven Technologies

When assessing your needs always look first to proven solutions. There are many different products on the market that claim to be the magical silver bullet that will solve all of our management problems. Some of these products do offer a benefit when grass is being pushed to

its limits under certain conditions. When looking to put forward a request to improve your course you should definitely consider looking to proven methods and products. This often involves something as simple as a little more fertilizer for the tees and greens as opposed to the latest bio-stimulant. It may also include a place in the budget for slow release fertilizers, to free up labour to increase attention to detail throughout the course. Instead of asking for the latest do everything widget for thatch control you could instead look for a new greenside quick couplers to minimize leakage and damage due to over watering and flooding. Often a small increase in the labour budget will allow for essential management to be implemented such as more frequent changing of the pin placement on the weekends, to minimize wear tolerance and aid in faster recovery of the greens. Start with proven technologies, show improvement and success with a small investment, and future requests will be looked upon more favourably.

## Proposal, benefits, costs

One of the most important aspects of this process is to formalize the request in a proposal format. The key to success is to remember to cater to your audience, who are often money and business oriented and more often than not, unaware of the agronomic expertise involved in maintaining a golf course. In your proposal describe the need and evidence of that need by using terminology and examples that the owner/membership would recognize on the course and can understand the need for improvement. Another important part of the proposal is to honestly and conservatively describe how the requested equipment, labour hours or supplies will alleviate the need described in the first section. Often, this is because the request will free up time to allow for better attention to detail throughout the work day. Not only is it important to describe the benefit in terms of an improved golfing experience but also in terms of future cost savings with regards to annual expenses. Often a little fertilizer will be very beneficial in allowing the turfgrass to recover from a disease, more quickly alleviating the need for repeated fungicide applications. Sharper mower blades can lead to less injury and savings in terms of overall pesticide budgets.

## If first you do not succeed

Keep trying, get feedback, and look at other improvements that can be made. One key aspect of this process is not to get too fixated on a project and remember that the success or failure of each individual proposal should not be taken personally, but seen as an opportunity



to improve and learn. Often, the best thing to come out of a proposal for improvements is a better line of communication between the superintendent and the owner, or greens committee. The most important aspect of this process is to be willing to listen and create a dialogue between the entire operation to deliver the best golfing experience for the client with the resources available.

### So you succeeded

If you are fortunate enough to receive all or part of your request the next step is to make the best of what has been granted. That in itself is another article. I want to stress in this article the importance of proper communication. Keep the golfers and the owner/green committee aware throughout the process of the improvement. In addition, keep detailed records of cost expenses and realized savings. Take pictures of before and after each stage of the project, show your successes and communicate through the bumps in the road and everyone will be happy with the decisions. These will prove invaluable to show the golfers and the owners the value they received on their investment and will be invaluable for requesting future funds for improvements.

All golf course superintendents could do a little bit more, and deliver a little bit better product to the golfers if they had a few more resources. The key to securing these resources are:

- Recognize the true needs and identify the few projects that will deliver the greatest improvement in the golfing experience for each dollar spent.
- Formulate a good solid proposal with the correct audience in mind.
- Communicate throughout the process and definitely show the improvements, either visually or in terms of cost savings.

Often the biggest gain through this procedure is opening lines of communication between owners, management, greens committees golfers and you, the superintendent.



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# Above the hole

by Rafik Lang-Bismillah, Student & Intern  
Senjan Golf Club, Fergus

Cool mornings and the ever present threat of frost delays have finally given way to early mornings, heat and humidity. Heat and humidity may not always be our best ally, however, complimented by cool rainy nights turf appears determined to keep us on our toes constantly. The days may be longer but it often feels as though there are more jobs than time permits. Nevertheless, this is what we eagerly awaited all winter. The season is finally in full swing!

Along with all the constant changes and improvements in management and practices made each season, this season brought us something new. We had a high school student intern work for us over a two week co-op period. Having been given the responsibility of managing the course this season, the intern was placed under my charge. I was excited at the opportunity to train somebody and teach them all I could about a profession I genuinely enjoy.

In a strange twist of fortune, the intern got an intern. Not a bad little deal right? Well that's how it first appeared, until two weeks of free labour cost more in lost productivity than was saved in wages. Repeated instructions and half completed tasks eventually did little but increase my own work load substantially.

Summers are short, and members are not forgiving, therefore, the goal of management must be to reduce inefficiencies and bad practices in order to better accomplish the job. An intern seemed like the answer to the staffing issues of a small course like ours. He would be excited, hard working and most importantly he would come as a blank slate, learning exactly how we expected things. We were mistaken; perhaps even slightly naïve in our assumptions. The concept seemed brilliantly simple in addition to being beneficial to all interested parties. That should have been my first warning; like the old adage says 'anything that seems too good to be true,

generally is'. Repetition became the buzz word of those few weeks. Instructions, tasks, expectations and safety warnings were all done once and then again, and unfortunately often once more. This is not to say that this particular student was lazy or incompetent, rather he was probably like many other students his age. He needed clear directions, and constant supervision, things we failed to properly deliver. This was a lesson, regrettably learnt the hard way.

There are certain fundamental concepts and practices which cannot be taught on the job. Motivation, diligence and initiative are necessary traits a person must possess. Having staff members with these fundamentals, management becomes a balancing act; defining the needs and expectations of the club and then managing those expectations. We learnt a valuable lesson with our first internship experience. With an intern, management shifts into the realm of teaching. A prerequisite for teaching must be patience, an attribute I do not have an abundance of. My experience with the intern, blessedly short, gave me a new found respect for those who take the time and determination to teach someone. Hopefully our intern took something valuable away from his experience on the golf course, we certainly did!



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## The way we were

Can you Identify the person in this picture? Answers on page 29



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# TELUS WORLD SKINS RETURNS TO ONTARIO

by John Bladon  
*Agrium Advanced Technologies*

The arrival of golf stars, John Daly, Stephen Ames, Retief Goosen, Colin Montgomerie and Geoff Ogilvy for a match at the Raven Golf Club at Lora Bay sent the little town of Thornbury, Ontario into a frenzy. No one could have been more excited to have company coming than OGSA member and Raven golf course superintendent, Chris LeCour.

Barely two years since construction began on the Thomas McBroom/Tom Lehman designed routing, Chris has overseen both the construction and the grow-in on a site where, aside from the odd washout, virtually every inch of the property was established from seed. The Raven is a departure from the design norm of the past number of years as it features dwarf Kentucky bluegrass fairways. The fact that this relatively young property is prepared to host a major event like the Telus World Skins is a testament to Chris' efforts.

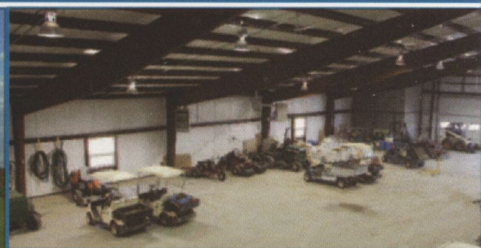
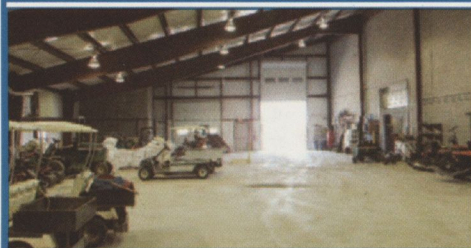
As the Raven's maintenance team prepared the golf course for the main event and preceding Pro-Am,

working split shifts, Georgian Bay Superintendents Association President, John Bontje and board member, Craig McCutcheon spent Sunday afternoon preparing and serving food to Chris and his hard working troops.

In the end, and after two days of great golf, it was crowd favourite "Long" John Daly who captured his second consecutive title by virtue of an eagle at the par 5 13th hole capping off a two day skins total of \$220,000. When John was asked what he would be doing with his winnings, he replied "I'll be paying alimony, most likely" sending his fellow competitors into fits of laughter. The players also universally gave the golf course praise for its conditioning. In spite of golf being at the forefront, the real winner was the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) as Telus and the event raised over \$200,000 for the foundation and its search for a cure.

Finally, it marks the first time since 2003 and Royal Niagara Golf Course that Ontario has played host to the event.

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The Toro General was initially made famous in Pennzoil commercials in the 1970's and 80's. The oil was endorsed by Arnold Palmer and Arnie drove a 1947 version of the General in the Pennzoil advertisements. Near and dear to his heart, Arnie first rode the General as

a child at Latrobe CC where his father Deacon (Deke) Palmer was the golf course superintendent. Interestingly, the General features a 9N engine and a Ford truck transmission and rear end. Of late, PGA Tour commissioner Tim Finchem actually presented Arnold Palmer with a restored 1922 version, that runs on kerosene and has no brakes, for his 76<sup>th</sup> birthday. Arnold still keeps a small collection of Generals to this day.

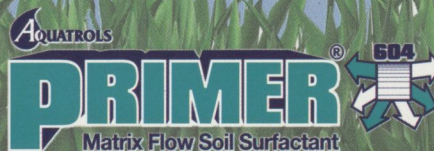
If you have an old piece of equipment, in operating condition, still being used on your golf course, provide us with a photo, description, and year and we will print it in *Green is Beautiful's* Antique alley.



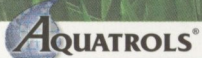
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# On the REEL side of things



Mike McGrath

Equipment Technician, Greystone Golf Club

## A quality cut takes more than a mower

At a golf course, getting the best cut out of your equipment is always a challenge. Everyday there are four things that affect your mower's performance:

- cutter set up
- operator
- debri
- course conditions

Turf equipment needs constant care as units have many moving parts that require attention. The most important part of any piece of equipment is the cutting units, as these are the "business" end of the machine. Therefore, it stands to reason that you should spend most of your time maintaining them.

Sharpening and set up are a huge part of a mechanics day, and any way to reduce this time can be valuable. In my experience, taking each cutter through a full service once a year reduces cutting problems throughout the season. Spending time with each cutting unit, checking it thoroughly for loose hardware, damaged parts, failing bearings and seized adjustments saves time in the long run. Also, reducing grinding time is simple - set up your cutters more often and you will grind less. There are many different ways to set up a cutter, as there are mechanics. This is obviously too large a topic to cover here, but what I have found works best is following the manufacturers suggested set up. Be flexible, if you have different manufacturers you may have to set up your equipment differently (i.e. contact vs. no contact).

Your operator can also have a huge effect on your cut quality. A well trained operator will watch and care for your cutters while he/she is on the course. With operators, a little time spent explaining the operation of the cutters will help them to understand the importance

of keeping rollers clean and watching for foreign material on the cutting surface (i.e. ball markers, gravel, etc.). Another tip for operators to be aware of is their cutting speed, extra weight caused by over loaded buckets and obstacles such as sprinkler heads. These factors will definitely affect your quality of cut.

Turf conditions will also dictate how well your mowers are working. Wet, soft soil spring conditions will often dictate heights for you. Raising your height of cut in the spring, lowering it slowly to correspond with seasonal changes is necessary. Fairways can be especially challenging when choosing height of cut. Most fairways do not receive the same care and attention as your greens and tend to create more varied conditions throughout the playing surface. Fairway units usually have ground pressure adjustments, which when used in conjunction with your height of cut can deliver improved results.

By paying particular attention to the issues that can affect your cutters and being proactive in reducing any potential problems, will ensure that you are delivering the best quality of cut possible. This will ultimately allow you to maintain a fleet that will make you, your superintendent and your turf happy.

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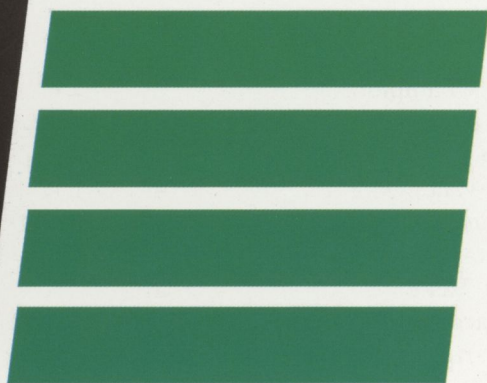
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# Looking back

## 30 YEARS AGO TO-DAY

by Barry Endicott

The directors of the OGSA in 1977 were as follows: **Alan Beeney** (pres.), **Paul Scenna** (vice), **Stuart Mills** (sec.), **Paul Dodson** (treas.), **Paul Dermott** (past pres.), **Bill Bowen**, **Ron Allen**, **Paul White**, **Ken Nelson**, **Hugh Kirkpatrick** and **Bill Hynd** (editor).

The 7th Annual OGSA Symposium was held at the Rosedale Golf and Country Club hosted by **John Grightmire**. 112 superintendents, assistants and guests attended. **AI Beeney** was the chairman and **Keith Nisbet** and **Jack Eggens** conducted the speakers for the day. The speakers were **Bob Kennedy**, **Bernie MacDonald**, **Paul White**, **Doug Hoskins**, **Paul Dermott**, **Dennis Pellrene** and **Helmut Kopp**. **Dan Ardley** made comments on Regionalization because of the geographic problem of Ontario being such a big province.

The Annual Turf Managers Short Course was held at the University of Guelph with 31 students attending. Top students in the class were **Merv Mill** from the City of Burlington, **Doug Meyer**, Superintendent at Val des Lacs in St. Sophie, **Larry Peakock**, Assistant Superintendent at Parkview, **Bill Hale**, Superintendent at Puslinch, **Henry House**, Streetsville, **Howie Schnarr**, Chelmsford, **Ian True**, Alliston, **David Wray**, Tam O'Shanter, **Gib Dow**, Ironwood Golf Club and **Ed Hendricks** from Kitchener.

The CGSA held their 28th Turfgrass Show at the Calgary Inn from March 14th to the 17th. The president of the CGSA was **Larry Brown**. The 48th GCSAA Turf Conference and Show was held at Portland, Oregon on February 6th to 11 th. **Gord Witteveen** retired from the Board after 4 years of service.

The Canadian Open was held from July 21 - 24 at Glen Abbey. **Dennis Pellrene** was the superintendent. Glen Abbey is now the permanent home of the Canadian Open. **Dennis** was previously the superintendent at Erie Downs Golf and Country Club for 3 years and prior to that assistant to **John Piccolo** at St. Catharines.

The 9th Annual Field Day - University of Guelph Turf Plots was held at the Galt Country Club on June the 9th, hosted by **Paul Scenna**. With 91 participants the low superintendents were **George Garner** 76, **Bill Bowen** 76, **Bob Heron** 77 and **Bill Glashan** 81.

The President, Green Chairman, Superintendent Tournament was held at the Islington Golf Club on July 8th hosted by **Thom Charters**. Forty teams competed and the winning teams were as follows: Bayview Golf and Country Club, **Ed Ortleib**; Aurora Highlands, **Whitey Jones**; Glen Eagle Golf Club, **Bill Calhoun**; Glen Abbey, **Dennis Pellrene**; and Dalewood Golf & Curling Club, **Hugh Kirkpatrick**. The

Superintendents/Pro Golf Day was held at The York Downs Golf Club hosted by **Kimmo Salonen**. The winners of the event were Markland Wood, **Bob Heron** and **Ken Duggan**, Conestoga Golf Course, **Bruce Vollet** and **Ron Silver** and **Glen Shields**, **Barry Endicott** and **Fergus Gallagher**. Low superintendent was **Bill Bowen** 77.

There was a meeting held at the Oshawa Golf Club on February 16th with 45 superintendents and guests attending. **Rusty Warkman** was host and after the meeting curling followed. On March 30th, there was a meeting held at North Halton Golf & Country Club hosted by **Allan Beeney**. After lunch, 32 curlers competed for the OGSA Curling Championship and the team of **Dennis Pellrene**, **Ron Craig**, **Doug Heron** and **Jack Austin** were the winners. There was a Western/OGSA joint meeting held at the Dundas Valley Golf Club hosted by **AI Schantz** on April 28th and a meeting was held at Sunningdale hosted by **Ken Nelson** on May 12th. Low gross went to **Bill Bowen** 76, low net **Joe Reid** 69. In September a meeting was held at Chinguacousy with **Henry Guertin** as host. This was a Best Ball tournament with **Blake McMaster**, Brampton, and **Scotty Orr**, Kleinburg winning in a playoff with a net of 65. **Bob Heron**, Markland Woods and **Gord Putney**, Bayview was 3rd with a 66. On August 25th there was a monthly meeting held at the Wildewood Golf Club hosted by **John Smith**. **Dr. Fustney** and **Norm McCollum** were in attendance from the University of Guelph. First low gross was **Bill Bowen** with a 74, 2nd was **Hugh Kirkpatrick** 78 and **Steve Miller** with an 80. An OGSA turf equipment demonstration was held at the Cambridge Research Station on September 8th. On December 2nd the Christmas party was held at St. Georges Country Club hosted by **Bill Hynd**.

**Gord Witteveen** scored a hole in one during his vacation in Florida. **John Stoughton**, from the Barrie Country Club, was recovering from a minor operation. **Bill Hynd** won a trip to Eluethera in the Bahamas for being the closest to the hole at La Chute Quebec at the CGSA Annual Fall Field Day. He later had to give up the prize because it was over the \$250.00 allowable for amateurs set by the RCGA. **Mr. Elwood McCarther** passed away suddenly on June 9th after a brief illness at the age of 64. **Elwood** was the superintendent at the Scarboro Golf Club from 1956 to 1977 and before that at the Glendale Golf Club. **Paul Dermott** moved from Islington to Oakdale Golf Club and **Helmet Kopp** moved to St. Charles Golf Club in Winnipeg. There was a position advertised for a superintendent at the Essex Golf and Country which was filled by **Bill Fach**.

The way we were... answer from page 23, **Alan Beeney**, OGSA President - 1977



# Turf or consequences

by Doug Breen, Superintendent  
Golf North Properties

## Night Watering

In the days before I-pods, we used to have this thing called night watering. If you're under thirty, there's a very real possibility that you have absolutely no idea what I'm talking about. But if you ever owned a copy of Led Zeppelin IV on 8-track, we're about to take a walk down memory lane. On the other hand, if you're young enough that you never even had Zeppelin IV on cassette tape (or heaven forbid, don't know who Led Zeppelin is), then just stop reading now and go chat with your "friends" on Facebook. In those days, owners didn't need multi million dollar irrigation systems - they had us. They didn't need two sets of heads to avoid over watering the greens, or part circle heads, or pumping stations - they had us. Back in the dark ages, it was a man, a couple miles of leaky hose, a bunch of heads on rollers, and *maybe* some headlights.

You'd go out at dusk, at right about the same time that all your friends were going out to the movies, or the bar, or anyplace else where there might be giggles to be had. But instead, you'd hop on a cart, grab a roller head from the top of the neatly coiled hose, and drag it uncoiling behind you to the area that you needed to water. If you were good at it, you could lay the head exactly where you wanted it without ever getting off of the cart. In the interest of speed, many rookies would hold the head by the impact mechanism in their hand as they dragged 100 feet of hose behind. This was a mistake. Eventually, a quick coupler key would catch on a tree trunk in the dark, and pull your arm out of its socket or tear off a finger or two. Henceforth the head would be clamped on the floorboards with a foot.

Once all the heads were in place, you'd go start the pump. Often diesel. Often unreliable. Many deals have been made with God in the darkness at this point. Many is the wayward soul who has knelt beside the starter button and promised to be a better man, if only the Good Lord would allow that pump to start just one more time and make it through one more night. The road to Damascus has nothing on drought stress and lack of sleep.

In truth, I failed Irrigation 101. Don't go looking for that course in the University of Guelph syllabus; it isn't there. In my first year on the course, I was happily raking bunkers in the daylight one afternoon, when I was given the opportunity to do some night watering. Not knowing what that was, and being eager to please, I cheerfully accepted. Two nights later, I was zipping around in the dark and ran over a quick coupler with a key in it. The next morning, I learned about Irrigation Repair 101.

Now it wasn't all bad out there. Owners would usually turn a blind eye to the fact that the night waterer would often bring someone with him to ride shotgun for the night; like a buddy, or a girlfriend, or a buddy's girlfriend. Of course, it was always tough to convince someone to give up a night out on a *weekend*, but fortuitously, weekends were also the nights that the banquet halls would be full of waitresses. It was never really too

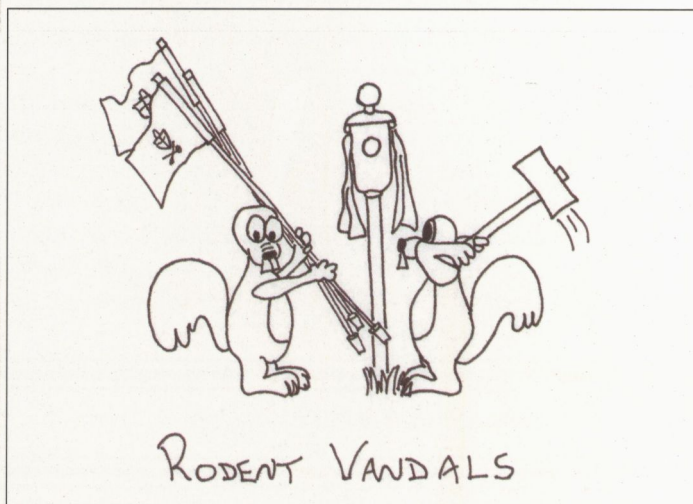


tough to convince one of them that it would be fun to go for a ride after their shift ended, and often you had the opportunity to soak a couple who had "gone for a walk" at the end of a wedding reception.

But I readily admit, that on the nights that you were out there alone, a fellow with an active imagination like mine, could get pretty scared. There are a lot of eyes reflecting back at you from all angles. I nearly ran into a deer in the fog once. I had to fight off a raccoon with a Rainbird, and got beat up by a drunken groomsman in the parking lot. I've gotten disoriented and dropped into bunkers, and nearly hung myself with ropes strung between trees. I was out there one night when a satellite burned up during re-entry on the horizon. I'd been reading *Communion*, and was sure that aliens had landed on the farm next door. Once a skin diver sneaked onto the property and was floating in the pond. In the darkness, I thought that a golfer had drowned, and nearly shat myself when he jumped up after I poked him with a stick.

Many people are unaware that during times of drought, the dry soil causes the nights to be much colder. Night waterers knew this, because the last job of the night was to roll up the hoses in out of play areas. The hoses were cold, wet and stiff. So were you. And halfway through rolling up the third freezing cold hose with your numb, wet hands, you'd slide onto a razor sharp hose clamp from some long forgotten repair. Many times, the older hoses would have more repairs than hose. This would lead to profuse bleeding.

Just as the sun was coming up, you'd drag yourself home for a few hours sleep, only to find the girl that you'd been pursuing for six months having breakfast with your roommate. They met at a party while you were working. A perfect end to a perfect day - I don't miss it. There are still courses out there irrigating this way, and I firmly believe that every young superintendent wannabe should be forced to operate one of these systems for a season, just so they appreciate what's available now. Besides, in a twisted sort of way, it was pretty fun.





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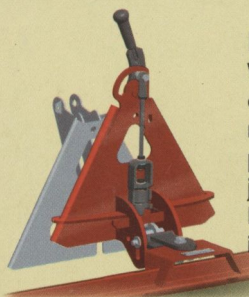
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