



FROM THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Mark Snyder

The Northwest Turfgrass Association is 40 years old this year and the Tri-Cities conference is going to be both educational and fun!

Welcome again, to all members, both old and new.

In the last issue of *Turf Topics*, I discussed the growth of the NTA through increasing members and the benefits that our membership does enjoy.

One of those benefits is the annual conference; this year at Pasco, Washington.

We are known for our high quality educational sessions and, we are recognized as being the turfgrass association with the longest history of continuous conferences in the United States.

This year at Pasco, September 22 through 25, the tradition continues. We will kick off the conference Monday night with an old-fashioned western BBQ; complete with a "souvenir" bandana. Plan to wear your jeans and bring the kids! Golf awards from the day's tournament will precede the entertainment and it will be a fun evening for all Association members and their families.

Tuesday afternoon and early evening will repeat the great Supplier Social Hour and Show. At this function, the membership can meet our commercial friends and view the many products that our industry depends upon. Your participation is doubly rewarded with the chance every twenty minutes to win a door prize; such as a TRS-80 Color Computer or a family campstove.

Wednesday will be socially highlighted with two events:

The first will be the Ladies riverboat tour on the Columbia; complete with a catering service to compliment the excursion.

Back at the Red Lion that evening will be the Annual Dinner Dance. The speakers remarks will be short and the entertainment will be great for dancing. Plan to "put on the Ritz" for this evening wind-up of a great Association Conference.

Be sure to make your plans now to attend the 1986 Conference. It is going to be both educational and fun.

The complete Ladies and Men's programs, including educational and social events will be detailed in the next issue.

The NTA is "40 years old and Growing". I am glad that each of you is a part of it!

TURFGRASS FIELD DAYS AT PUYALLUP RESEARCH STATION

Two field days will be held at the Western Washington Research and Extension Center on June 24 and 25, 1986. Both field days will be held at Farm 5, which is six miles due east of the Research Station. The field day on June 24 will be for golf course people only since we will be discussing research oriented toward golf course management and interrelated problems. The field day on Wednesday, June 25, will be for all other people including schools, parks, homeowners, lawn care companies, commercial property management and industry representatives. We have a considerable amount of new research on the ground and this will be your opportunity for a complete update on slow release fertilizers, management of growth regulants, turfgrass management on sand profiles, aerification studies, adapted turfgrass varieties, fertilizer leaching studies, water use management studies and others. There will be something here for everyone.

This is your opportunity to take an indepth look at the research that is ongoing, ask questions, and make suggestions for further research that you feel is important to this region.

Put these dates on your calendar now and be with us on either of those days from 9:30 to 12:30 each day. For those of you who don't know where Farm 5 is located, please come to the Research Station which is on West Pioneer, 2 miles west of Puyallup and you will receive instructions how to get there.

40th NORTHWEST TURFGRASS CONFERENCE

All plans are moving quickly toward finalizing the educational program, commercial exhibits, ladies programs, golf tournaments and everything else concerned with our forthcoming turfgrass conference on September 22-25, 1986. The Conference this year will be at the Red Lion Inn at Pasco, Washington and we know that there will be a super program and a super location.

There will be split sessions for golf course people and sessions for schools, parks, lawn care personnel and others.

Bo Hepler, who has worked on the local arrangements, guarantees cloudless skies, perfect temperatures and fun for all.

Why don't each of you members of the Northwest Turfgrass Association tell one or two other people about this conference soon so that they can either become members or they can be sent registration materials. We can always handle a few more.

MEET YOUR NEW NTA DIRECTORS

We are a little late in presenting to you the new directors in Turfgrass Topics, but it seems we didn't have enough photographs for the December issue. We do want you to know your new directors so that you will be able to contact them with respect to Northwest Turfgrass Association business whenever the need arises.



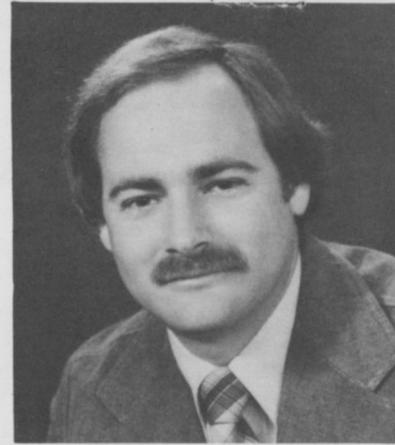
MIKE KINGSLEY

Mike Kingsley is currently the golf course superintendent at Coeur d'Alene Golf Club, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, where he has been for the past four years. Prior to that he was assistant superintendent to Bud Ashworth at Spokane County's Liberty Lake Golf Course for 4 years. Mike also worked for Spokane County at Hangman Valley Golf Course for 4 years prior to that.

Mike received his A.A. degree in business management from Spokane Falls Community College in 1975.

Currently, Mike is President of the Inland Empire Golf Course Superintendents Association, having held positions of vice president and board member previously. Mike is a member of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America and has been a member of the Northwest Turfgrass Association for the past 7 years. Mike is currently a 7 handicap golfer and in addition to maintaining and managing golf courses he enjoys skiing, kayaking, tennis and racketball.

Mike states, "I am very excited to be a board member of the NTA and anxious to serve in any way I can."



BO HEPLER

Bo has been involved with the golf industry and turf management practically his entire career. Before graduating from Washington State University and receiving his Bachelor of Science degree in Agronomy, he worked five years at Hi-Cedars Golf Club in Orting, Washington. He has had the opportunity to go through the Jacobsen Training Corp. three different occasions in Racine, Wisconsin and was awarded one of their scholarships. He served as a mechanic in the U. S. Marine Corp Reserve for six years. Over the last four years Bo has been employed as Company Branch Manager and Turf Specialist for Senske Super Green, a large chemical lawn care company in the Tri-Cities area of Washington. He has recently opened a new branch office in Yakima, Washington which he will be running in 1986, and where he and his family will be residing. He loves well managed turf and a weed-free lawn.

He reaps great satisfaction as a turf agronomist when able to solve weed or disease problems for his eastern Washington customers and is pleased to be a part of this beautiful green planet. He also enjoys playing golf when he can afford the time along with wood working and spending time with his family.



BILL CAMPBELL

Bill was born in Honolulu, Hawaii and has been a golf course superintendent for the past 26 years. He has been a PGA member for 21 years as well. I believe Bill is probably one of the only superintendents in the Northwest who holds a full membership in the Professional Golf Association. He was also a member of the Florida section of the PGA for 4 years and the Nevada section for 4 years in addition to his time with the Northwest section.

(Continued on Page 3, Column 1)

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Bill Campbell—Continued

Bill and his wife, Pearl, have two children, Leilani and Mac. They reside at Issaquah, Washington and Bill has been the Superintendent at the Sahalee Golf and Country Club at 21200 NE 28th, Redmond, WA 98052 for the past 7 years. He can be reached by phone at (206) 868-1600.

In addition to his other director responsibilities, Bill has headed up the commercial exhibits at the annual conference on two different occasions and was instrumental in getting this off the ground. Bill is currently the Vice President and will proceed on to the President of the Northwest Turfgrass Association.



CLIP COLLARD RETIRES

Clip Collard, pictured above with his grand daughter, Stephanie, has retired from San Juan Golf Club at Friday Harbor, Washington. Clip has been the golf course superintendent at Friday Harbor since March 1972, and those of you who have been associated with 9-hole or small golf courses can appreciate the amount of work that goes in to a 9-hole golf course, particularly when you have only 1/2 to 3/4 time individual in addition to the superintendent.

San Juan Golf Club was practically devastated with rabbits when Clip took over, and during his tenure, not only did he build rabbit fences around the entire golf course but also managed to keep the course in good, playable condition throughout this time.

Clip has had an unusual career, and although he is a born and reared American, he served three years with the RAF as a fighter pilot flying both day and night fighters. He also served two years in the U.S. Air Force in Europe as a P-51 pilot. Following World War II, Clip spent three years in agriculture and commercial aviation in the U.S. He felt a need to get closer back to the ground so he developed, owned and operated a seed ranch in Idaho from 1950 to 1969 when the ranch was sold. Clip's specialty was producing certified alfalfa seed and he was one of the early innovators in the use of leaf cutter bees for pollination.

Clip's wife, Ruth, has been a strong asset to him over these many years and still enjoys a good game of golf and a good bridge game. Both Clip and Ruth are looking forward to retiring somewhere in the area of Lincoln City, Oregon, where Clip will spend a great deal of his time at his wood carving, another talent which Clip has developed to a very professional degree. His carvings of water fowl and other outdoor life are super.

At least for the near future, Clip and Ruth can be contacted at 4948 Logan Road, Lincoln City, Oregon.

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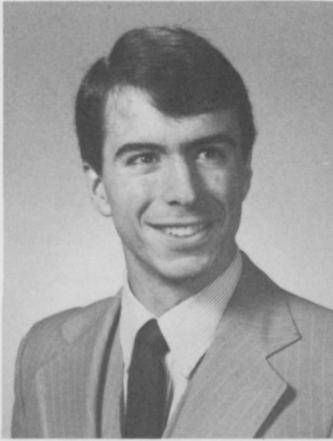
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SCHOLARSHIP TO TIM O'LALEY

Tim O'Larey, a junior in the Turfgrass and Landscape Management Program at Oregon State University, was awarded one of the Northwest Turfgrass Association scholarships in the fall of 1985.

Tim has extensive golf course experience at Oswego Lake Country Club under the capable superintendent, Dick Fluter. Tim plans to stay in the area of professional turfgrass management after graduation.

Nolan Johansen, U. of Idaho, was also awarded a \$500 scholarship. His photograph was not available.

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SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION REMINDERS

Dennis Pagni, Chairman of the Grants and Scholarship Committee, has announced that Northwest Turfgrass Association scholarships are available to students pursuing degrees in turfgrass management or related fields at Northwest universities. Teaching professors at Oregon State University, Washington State University, University of Idaho and University of Montana should notify their better students of this opportunity. Application forms are available from Dr. Goss at Puyallup. Scholarship applications must be submitted to the Northwest Turfgrass Association board of directors by August 1, 1986. The scholarships will be awarded at the annual Turfgrass Conference at Pasco, Washington in September 1986.

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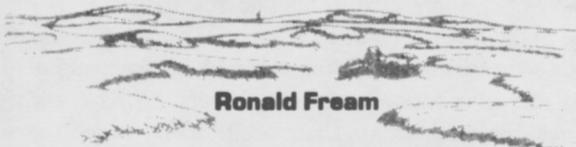
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NEWS FROM THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

By Mike Kingsley

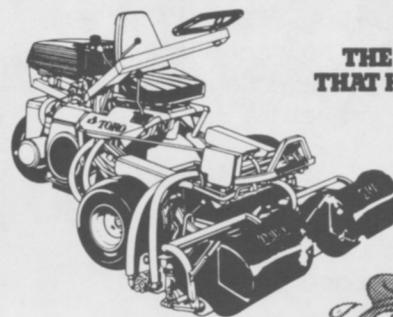
Well, spring is finally here and in our industry, with spring comes new growth (hopefully). We always need new growth to replace those that are less vigorous. This is not just a characteristic of turfgrass but can be applied to our Association as well.

Unfortunately, there are among us those who are not vigorous, who have become stagnant, and have not renewed their membership in the Northwest Turfgrass Association, and who no longer grow in their industry. So, to replace these people, we need new growth in the form of new members. In reviewing the membership list for 1985, we found that approximately 46% of our members are from golf courses, 32% from the commercial section, and 22% from schools and parks. You can see where we need improvement because there are far more schools and parks in the Northwest than golf courses.

I'll bet that most of you golf course superintendents have willingly provided help to your local schools and parks over the years, so why don't you take an application along and sign them up. There is no question that you commercial representatives cover a very large waterfront, and with little effort you should be able to sign up quite a few members. Why don't you just consider this as fertilizing your Association.

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CHINCH BUGS

Until very recently there were no reports of chinch bug activity or causing damage to turfgrasses in the Pacific Northwest. Whether the sudden appearance of these chinch bugs was due to the unusually long, dry and warm summer of 1985 remains to be seen. Tom Cook has reported heavy infestations in the Willamette Valley of Oregon; whereas, Roy Goss has examined several different turf specimens which have been heavily infested with chinch bugs.

Turfgrass samples containing chinch bugs were invariably found in lawns that had been under severe stress during the summer of 1985. The general symptoms are that the grass does not seem to recover during the late fall, late winter period. Normally lawns that turn brown due to summer stress most often green up with the onset of fall rains. This was not the case with many of these lawns. Chinch bugs are known to be much more troublesome along curbs, sidewalks, driveways and other areas that tend to become hotter and drier. The chinch bugs suck the juices from the grass leaves and seem to inject toxic substances into the leaves causing further thinning and death of the grass plants.

The chinch bugs observed at this point are black with a gray spot on the upper surface and are about 1/8 inch long and move very freely through the turf. If you notice any unusual thinning or dying of your turf during this next summer, you may look at it carefully to see if there are any chinch bugs. Several insecticides are available for the control.

YOUR NORTHWEST TURFGRASS ASSOCIATION FUNDS WHERE DO THEY GO?

By Roy L. Goss

Recently, I was invited by the Oregon Golf Course Superintendents to give a talk to their first annual Green Chairman, Club Official, Superintendent Seminar. The talk was entitled "What the hell do you do with all that budget?" All too frequently, the users of sports facilities including golf courses never really know what it takes to maintain these facilities at the level that they expect. When we consider that labor (all salaries and wages) eats up between 60-80% of most operating budgets, that really doesn't leave too much surplus to do all the rest. The price of chemicals have skyrocketed in recent years. Fuel, fertilizers, replacement parts, etc., take care of the remainder of the budget.

The Northwest Turfgrass Association is a very efficient and dedicated organization where costs of operating the Association are held to a minimum. There are no salaries and wages paid with the exception of \$100.00 per month for bookkeeping, billings and general record keeping for the Association. The Northwest Turfgrass Association operates two bank accounts; one is the general fund, which takes care of the printing, mailings, directors meetings and incidental costs, and the other account is a special research fund where monies are collected, saved, and granted for research and scholarship purposes only. The general fund receives its money from membership and the amount that is not required for the items already mentioned and for the sponsoring of the entire turfgrass conference go into research grants and scholarships as well. Craig Calvert has served as a volunteer for several years in managing this Special Research Fund and also for billing and collection of these funds. He has managed the Fund very efficiently by obtaining the highest interest rates possible.

The Special Research Fund was originally developed for supporting a Research Associate to assist with the turfgrass research program. The program was begun in 1975 and Tom Cook was the first research associate hired and is now conducting the turfgrass teaching program at Oregon State University. John Roberts was the second research associate and is now the Extension Turfgrass Specialist at the University of New Hampshire. Following Dr. Roberts, we hired Dr. John Law, who was with us for about 1-1/2 years and is now with ChemLawn Corporation. Dr. Law was followed by Dr. Jeff Nus who carried out some excellent research programs for about 1-1/2 years and is now heading up the turfgrass research department at Kansas State University.

The total income from the Northwest Turfgrass Association has been insufficient to pay the total upkeep of a research associate on a continual basis from year to year. Therefore, when a research associate would move on, the position would be left blank for about one year to help build up the research fund. This is how we have managed to operate since 1975.

Due to the financial crunch of most universities and particularly those in Washington, Oregon and Idaho, the board of directors of the Northwest Turfgrass Association have agreed to terminate the research associate position and support at some lower dollar value some technical research help and increase research grants and scholarships.

(Continued on Page 7, Column 1)

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NTA Funds—Continued

Requests for research grants and scholarships are carefully evaluated by the Research Committee who makes their recommendations to the board of directors. This past year, Dennis Pagni and his committee recommended the following action which was adopted and carried out by the board of directors.

1. \$2,000 for turfgrass cultivar evaluations to Dr. W. J. Johnston, WSU, Pullman.
2. \$1,908 for sand sieves and shaker to Tom Cook Oregon State University.
3. \$1,500 for an Omnidata Polycorder to Dr. Gary Chastagner, WSU, Puyallup.
4. \$3,000 for studies on the control of necrotic ring spot disease to Dr. Gary Chastagner, WSU, Puyallup.
5. \$3,000 for a research plot sprayer for Dr. Stan Brauen, WSU, Puyallup.
6. \$21,000 for salary and overhead for one year for a technical farm laborer to assist Dr. Stan Brauen, WSU, Puyallup in the research program.
7. \$1000 scholarship—\$500 to U. of Idaho and Oregon St. University.

You can see that there was approximately \$32,000 granted from all of your efforts during 1986. This will significantly reduce any savings on hand and it is hoped that other sources of funding can be generated for the technical farm laborer beginning in 1987.

Turfgrass associations around the United States such as the Northwest Turfgrass Association are assuming increasingly important roles in supporting turfgrass research and scholarship programs. It appears that the general public does not want any new taxes and state legislatures are finding it increasingly difficult to provide adequate funding to land grant universities for overall research programs. The responsibility, then, for the financial support of these programs is being passed on down to the persons receiving the most benefit. The more people that we can get involved in contributing to research and scholarship programs, the easier it will be for all of us and will not financially stress anyone.

I know that I speak for all research, teaching faculties and administrators for the Northwest universities when we say, "Thank you for this support, and we sincerely hope it will continue in the future." Please refer to your December issue of Turfgrass Topics for a complete list of all donors to these programs for 1985.



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HERBICIDES—INADVERTENT MISUSE

Precision spraying is required for applications of herbicides. This past season two companies removed Cucurbit crops from their herbicide labels. Cucurbits have historically had only narrow tolerances to herbicides. One company has stated that their decision to remove the herbicide label for Cucurbit crops was crop injury due to "inadvertent misuse."

An herbicide is labeled to be applied at a specific rate (lb/acre - broadcast), and a specific way (preemergence, preplant, post-transplant, directed-shielded, etc.). Also included on the label are several other points of information that must be followed for correct application.

An applicator may not intentionally apply an herbicide in a method other than prescribed on the label, but may do so through carelessness. This is what is meant by inadvertent misuse. Legally, it is called negligence.

This brings up the question of what are the major things that cause inadvertent misuse? There are two reasons: 1) mistakes that change the rate of application; and 2) mistakes in method and time of application.

RATE OF APPLICATION (gallons/acre)

The rate of application changes as nozzle size, pressure and speed change.

Nozzles. Many mistakes are made with nozzles. Old nozzle tips can wear, giving uneven and higher distribution. Sometimes, applicators use different nozzles on the same boom. All may be 80 degree nozzles but may vary from 8003 to 8004 tips. An 8004 may deliver 1/3 more gallons per acre than 8003, resulting in a 1/3 higher rate.

Pressure. When calibrating the sprayer, maintain a constant pressure. Herbicides should be sprayed at 20-40 psi. A miscalculation of pressure can cause up to 10 gallons per acre more being applied.

Speed. Tractor speed across the field is obvious when applying herbicide. Speed calibrated on a hard surface will probably be different than soft areas, rough terrain, etc. A one mile per hour difference in speed could add 5 gallons per acre of pesticide to the crop.

If an applicator did not check or calibrate the rig before applications, a total 2X misapplication is possible. Obviously, that much overspray would be seen quite rapidly, whereas 5 to 10 gallons per acre on 3 or 4 nozzles could be quite serious but harder to detect until crop emergence.

METHOD AND TIME OF APPLICATION

Method and Time. How and where to apply an herbicide are specified on the label. These are usually preplant surface or preplant incorporate (PPI), preemergence (PRE), postemergence (PE), post-transplant (POST,PT), or directed sprays.

In many soils, incorporating the herbicide improves efficacy. It also can be more phytotoxic to the crop when incorporated. A problem can also arise if a preemergence herbicide is applied too late. Problems have been seen when preemergence herbicides are applied just prior to emergence or at emergence and a rain follows.

This information was taken from Pacific Northwest Weed Topics, Vol. 86-1, March 20, 1986 and was contributed by Bill Stall, University of Florida.

The following information was taken from the same publication and was contributed by R. D. William, Oregon State University.

Interpretation of soil residue data, normally reported as ppm (parts per million) of an herbicide is difficult without a corresponding validation trial where known amounts of herbicide are compared using bioassay plants. However, a residue interpretation can be estimated as follows:

If a 3-inch layer of soil weighs one million pounds, then one pound of herbicide mixed in one million pounds of soil equals one part per million concentration. Usually, soils are sampled from a uniformly mixed 6-inch depth resulting in two million pounds of soil (Editor's Note: We normally recommend 3-inch depth sampling for turfgrasses). A one pound herbicide rate would result in a 0.5 ppm herbicide concentration. Therefore, a residue analysis reporting 2 ppm residue in a uniformly mixed 6-inch slice of soil is roughly equivalent to 4-lb/A rate.

Relating these results to the question of planting nonlabeled or sensitive crops also requires interpretation. Knowledge about degradation of the herbicide as influenced by climatic factors and soil types must be evaluated. Obviously, residues in many sandy soils will be more active than similar amounts in clay or muck soils. Label restrictions designed to avoid residues in food products must also be considered. Lastly, results from various analytical laboratories have been reported to vary considerably; thereby reducing the precision of the decision-making process.

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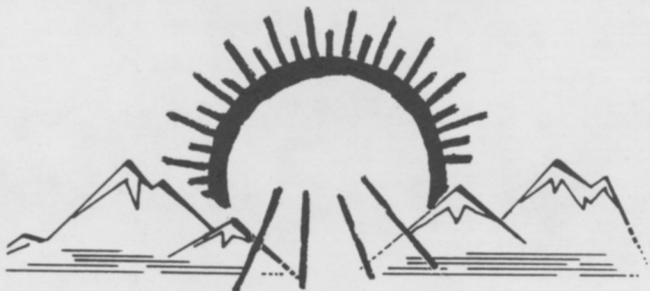
There's nothing wrong with having nothing to say — unless you insist on saying it.

WOULD YOU BELIEVE?

... That we received absolutely no response, not even one reply, from a membership of 435 with respect to the coupon form attached to the December issue of Turfgrass Topics asking you to reply as to how many years you had been a member of the Northwest Turfgrass Association. As we explained, the purpose of the coupon was to provide membership pins. From the response we obtained, we have to draw one of the following conclusions:

1. You didn't receive the December issue. If not, please check with us for an address change.
2. You didn't read the December issue (a clear message to your Editor).
3. You don't want a membership pin.

Laying all kidding aside, your Board of Directors would like to provide you with membership pins and it would be most useful to hear from you about how long you have been a member. Just clip the coupon, fill it out and send it in—it will take you less than one minute.



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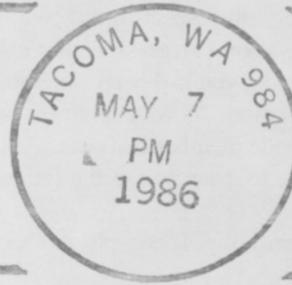


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REMEMBER THESE DATES

- June 24 Golf Turf Field Day
Western WA. Research & Extension Center
Puyallup, WA 9:30-12:30
- June 25 General Turf Field Day
same as above
- Sept. 22-25 Northwest Turfgrass Conference
Pasco, WA
Red Lion Inn

NORTHWEST TURFGRASS ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 397
Puyallup, WA 98371



Please Fill Out Enclosed Questionnaire

As a Director and the Treasurer of the NTA, one of my duties is to plan which direction the Association is going. In order to do this properly, I feel that I we should all know where we are presently. To start this process, the entire membership list must be improved with updated information on our membership. The information we have (only names and addresses) is inadequate. The request for additional information will be installed into a format that will allow us to manage the Association more efficiently and effectively for you.

In order to get this current information, I need your help. Enclosed in this issue of **Turf Topics** is a short letter of explanation and a form for you to fill out. The information you provide should be both complete and accurate. The form should be returned to me (an envelope is provided) as quickly as possible.

As with you, I am beginning my busy time of year and would appreciate a **rapid and complete** response from the membership so the information can be processed. If there is no response from you, I will have to mail you another form or call you long distance. This will take valuable time and Association funds.

Please complete the following information **today**. It will only take a minute of your time. Remember, the only information we have on you is that which is on the MAILING LABEL that this **Turf Topics** came in!! **WE NEED MORE**. This is also an opportunity for you to jot down ideas and suggestions that you would like to be passed on to the Board of Directors of your Turfgrass Association.

While I have this opportunity, The Pasco conference is starting to take shape and looks to be another success. Please give someone who would benefit from what the NTA has to offer a membership blank or my address. The annual conference and Supplier show is one of the best in the country. It is, of course, the best place to ask questions, meet your peers, learn from them and the many educational sessions, and to see and learn about the newest in equipment and supplies at the popular Suppliers show. I look forward to seeing you and a lot of new members there in September.

Again, please complete this as soon as possible and return it in the enclosed addressed envelope. No, the NTA has not moved from Puyallup. This address is to be used for this project only.

Gene Howe, Treasurer
Northwest Turfgrass Association

Mr. Tom Cook
Dept. of Horticulture
Oregon State University
Corvallis, OR 97331

OFFICERS OF THE NORTHWEST TURFGRASS ASSOCIATION

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Communications concerning content of this paper should be directed to Dr. Roy Goss, Editor, Western Washington Research and Extension Center, Puyallup, WA 98371.