

**President's message**  
**February 2008**

It is an honour to be given the opportunity to serve as president of a group of people whom I respect a great deal; OGSA members. The work that lies ahead over the next year will be accepted and given the attention it deserves, as our association continues to grow and encounter many challenges.

At this time, I would like to thank Randy Booker and the conference committee for a great job with the 2008 version of the Ontario Golf Course Management Conference and Trade Show, held at the Sheraton Centre in Toronto. An excellent educational program combined with excellent representation of our exhibitors in the trade show made for an enjoyable week! A sincere thank you to all who exhibited again this year and to the new exhibitors on the show floor, as it is your continued support that makes the conference what it is and what it will be for many years to come. A special thank you to our OGSA team lead by Dorothy Hills, for without their assistance and hard work, many things would go incomplete. Also, to Ken Cousineau and the CGSA team for another well executed plan for the conference. The relationship between the OGSA and the CGSA remains strong and we look forward to many more conference relations.

Our Annual General Meeting was conducted on Thursday January 17, 2008 and on behalf of the Board, I would like to welcome two new directors to the team, Phil Brown and Stu Leachman. We look forward to your input and involvement during these exciting times at OGSA. I would be remiss if I did not recognize the valuable efforts of Bob Burrows who now leaves the board. Thank you Bob and allow me on behalf of the OGSA membership, wish you all the best in your new position at Banff Springs. Congratulations and thank you to Sean DeSilva, our outgoing President, your leadership this past year was admirable and I wish you the best in your new position at Coppinwood.

There are changes at times with everything in life and there will be changes with our magazine, *Green is Beautiful*, beginning in the fiscal year 2008/2009. The main change will be the number of issues printed and distributed. This decision follows careful and lengthy discussions, and is due to a myriad of reasons. As we have experienced for many years, acquiring articles submitted on time has lead to issues weaker in content and fewer pages than others. By reducing the annual number of issues, we will maintain strength in professional presentation, content, and overall magazine strength. We have received many awards in the past because of its strength in content and presentation and the board feels that to continue this level, we must recognize the challenge and address it responsibly. There will be communications sent out to our membership, advertisers and industry suppliers over the next number of weeks in *Clippings* and other formats, to fully explain our plans for transition from 6 issues per year to 4 issues per year.

The board, with the help of our office staff, are currently preparing a new approach in maintaining and growing a stronger relationship with industry representatives and their involvement with our magazine, our roster, our website and attendance at our events each year. Through recognizing and acknowledging their concerns, our board is working towards implementing a program that will meet the advertising needs of all our associate members.

We, as a board, will continue to work hard to maintain the vision and follow our mission statement while representing our membership in the highest level possible. We look forward to the year ahead and will appreciate any input you may have.

Jeff Stauffer  
President,  
Ontario Golf Superintendents' Association