

## President's Message – Fall 2010

As the golf season passes and we move closer to winter, hopefully your fall programs were completed and executed as planned. Fall is such an important and busy time of year for the health of our golf clubs. With so much to be completed this time of year and the jump start of the 2010 season, I believe I speak for all golf superintendents, when I say, we are looking forward to slowing it down and enjoying a well deserved break from the fast pace of our Ontario golf year. The off season is a great time to look back and evaluate what worked, what didn't, what changes are needed and how to incorporate them into your departments.

To ensure you stay current with our ever-changing industry, Doug Breen has worked very hard with his committee, OGSA staff and management company to create three days of education opportunities at our 2011 Golf Course Management Conference and Trade Show at Caesars Windsor, January 12-14, 2011. Along with these top-notch educational sessions, we have planned some great social gatherings you will not want to miss! Gerry Dee, Canadian Stand-up Comedian, will kick off the conference on Wednesday morning at the Opening Ceremonies. This venue is like no other! For complete conference information visit [www.golfsupers.on.ca](http://www.golfsupers.on.ca) and click on the conference link.

A special thank you to golf superintendents who have hosted an event for their regional associations this season: Dan Dingman, Gross Ile G&CC; Randy Booker, Otter Creek GC; Martin Kopp, Brampton GC; Ray Dlugokecki, Springfield G&CC; Dan Magrin, BraeBen GC and Bill Fach, Black Bear Ridge GC for hosting successful OGSA events. I would like to thank Pat Thomas and Deborah Badger for all the support they give the directors and making our association wonderful. For those wondering about the executive manager position advertised on our website recently, it's because Dorothy Hills will be retiring from her post April 29th, 2011. Dorothy has been employed with us since 1998 and she is the backbone of our association. Dorothy, we appreciate your hard work and dedication in making the OGSA successful. I would also like to thank all my directors for their commitment to helping make the OGSA strong.

At this time I would like to mention with great sorrow the sudden passing of Mark Elliott, on Wednesday, October 6th. Mark was only 39 years old and managing partner of Tangle Creek Golf Club in Barrie. He held a diploma from Guelph University and the Cornell short course. He worked at National Pines under Chris Goodman and went on to be the golf course superintendent at Maples of Ballantrae before constructing Tangle Creek. Mark leaves behind his wife, Susan and four young children. Our deepest sympathy and condolences go out to the entire family. Mark will be missed by all. Please take time to enjoy family and friends and have a happy holiday season!

Jeff Alexander  
President, OGSA