

President's Message Summer 2009

Did I miss summer? Has anyone seen it yet? Is it still on its way or do we just accept the Scottish season we're experiencing? Told you global warming was just a fad to get our environmental minds working a notch faster. None the less, another season is well on its way to the history books.

Our association events have once again been a great success this year and we hope you've had the chance to get out and enjoy the friendships and networking opportunities available. There are still two events left this year with the Assistants tournament in September and the McClumpha scheduled for October. Keep your eyes open on the website Events page and the weekly *Clippings* for registration information.

Our association provides an opportunity to nominate someone in the industry for the OGSA Distinguished Service "William Sansom" Award. The purpose of this is to present an award of distinguished service, in the name of our first president, William Sansom, to an individual or individuals, who have been nominated and subsequently accepted by the Board of Directors of the Association. Criteria, qualifications and nomination form can be located on our web site, or you can get additional information from the office. This is your chance to recognize someone in our industry, who has made a significant contribution to the advancement of the golf course superintendent's profession in Ontario. The individual chosen will be presented with the award at our annual Awards Luncheon, held during the conference.

We are working with the CGSA to put together a phenomenal educational and trade show experience in Toronto from Feb. 28 – March 2, 2010 at the Sheraton Centre. Mark your calendars now and watch for registration information, soon to be made available. This is an opportunity to not only attend seminars, the trade show and network with your colleagues. It will also provide an opportunity to attain education points to maintain your IPM, CGCS and MS certification.

As you should be aware by now all facilities must become registered and enrolled in the IPM certification process. Please take the time to read Teri Yamada's article as there still seems to be some misguided information running around the industry. It is our responsibility to educate our management teams, members and the general golfing public on the importance of this process. Remember we have only been given an exception dependant on our IPM certification. There is no guarantee that we will continue to have all the pesticide tools at our fingertips. I think we owe it to ourselves and maybe more importantly both our children and our predecessors, as we don't know what the future holds and a lot of us have had the easy route out with the availability of all these products for many years. The basics of turf brought us to the point we're presently at – maybe it's time to take a step back and begin to fall back on these basics once again; soil building, turf cultivation and personal pride knowing we can provide A1 conditions without the easy use of pesticides.

Ontario Golf Superintendents' Association

Randy Booker
President