Clute ‘helping part of the game’

SAN FRANCISCO — Accepting the Golf Course Builder of the Year Award here, Paul Clute spoke of “the opportunity each one of us has to help some portion of the game,” and thanked material suppliers, subcontractors and course architects.

Presented the Golf Course News award during the Golf Course Builders Association of America annual banquet, Clute said his staff was utmost in the success of his firm, Paul Clute & Associates, Inc. in Hartland, Mich. “I think it is second to none,” he said.

Stossel: Gov’t should do less policing, more educating public

By MARK LESLIE

SAN FRANCISCO — Putting the blame squarely on government regulations and a willing accomplice, the media, John Stossel told an International Golf Course Conference and Show audience that the marketplace ought to be allowed to do the regulating in this country.

The ABC-TV consumer reporter joined panelists Dr. Kimberly Erusha of the U.S. Golf Association (USGA), who called on golf course superintendents to get people in their community directly involved with golf course environmental efforts; Ron Dodson of the Audubon Society of New York State, who urged superintendents to “reach out positively and not negatively” to the environmental community; and lawyers, an elite of intellectual people watching over us."

People die from obesity while the FDA doesn’t have to be a police agency — one that just says, ‘Yes, you may,’ or ‘No, you may not’; but rather an information service in the coming year,” he predicted.

Warren’s Group just took the headaches out of buying sod and sprigs!

100% guaranteed

1. pricing
2. availability
3. quality and uniformity
4. on-time delivery
5. superior sodding and sprigging services for golf courses and sports fields

Warren’s Turf

Warren’s Group, Inc.

Rapid City, SD 57701
Phone: 605-342-4610
Fax: 605-342-4610

In Indiana Call: 1 800 954-5577
In Texas Call: 1 800 828-8882
In Northern California Call: 1 800 828-8882
In Southern California Call: 1 800 426-4610
In Arizona Call: 1 800 426-4610
In Hawaii Call: 808 293-1544

100% satisfaction guaranteed. Period!

Call us for more information.
By Peter Blais

San Francisco — "You couldn’t have made a better selection," Toro Chief Executive Officer Ken Melrose said of Dr. James Watson, who received the Old Tom Morris Award during the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America annual banquet held here in late February.

During his 40 years at The Toro Co., Watson served as director of agronomy, company agronomist and vice president of customer relations. Semi-retired and living in Colorado, Watson still serves on the planning council for the Irrigation Association and was agronomic coordinator for the seven 1994 World Cup soccer sites.

"Jim has received many awards," said Melrose in reference to, among others, last year’s Donald Ross Award from the American Society of Golf Course Architects. "But I think this is the most appropriate."

Outgoing GCSAA President Joe Baidy called Watson "a giant in the turfgrass industry. You can see his influence everywhere."

In thanking the association for its highest award, Watson hailed the superintendent as the "driving force in the partnership being forged between the GCSAA and allied associations."

Also honored during the banquet were Baidy, Immediate Past President Randy Nichols and David Stone, superintendent at The Honors Course in Chattanooga, Tenn.

Baidy received a watercolor of the 2nd hole at his home course, Acacia Country Club in Lyndhurst, Ohio.

"I want to thank you," Baidy told the crowd. "The GCSAA launched my career when it awarded me a scholarship back in 1964."

Baidy applauded Nichols for leading GCSAA through a "challenging" 1993 that saw the association replace its upper management staff with the new Steve Mona-led regime and refocus its efforts on the local chapters.

"I received a lot of the credit for the positive changes that have taken place," said Nichols, head superintendent at Cherokee Town & Country Club in Dunwoody, Ga. "But we couldn’t have done it without the efforts of the entire board and the superintendents across the country."

Thomas Chisholm, chairman of the United States Golf Association Green Section, presented the "Cherry Hill Award to Stone."

"The playing conditions at David’s course have exceeded everyone’s expectations," Chisholm said. "His experiments with zoysia and bentgrass have become legendary across the South."

Clute: When the glitz gets brighter, bunkers get deeper

Continued from page 33

While remarking on the growth and increased popularity of golf and the "good reason to believe the game will continue to grow," Clute added that those in the industry should not lose sight of the golfing public on whom that growth hinges.

"It seems the glitz and glitter involved in the game gets a little brighter. It seems bunkers get deeper and waterfalls get taller. Greens get faster, the ball flies straighter and the grass gets greener. All those things I have found exciting, stimulating and good for the game of golf," he said.

"But there’s another big section of the industry and the game that is far more modest than that. That’s where the lion’s share of the players participate, and that is really the backbone of our industry and of the game."

Many composting methods emerging

Continued from previous page

- Mulching and composting woody plant debris has good potential. Run the debris through a chipper.

While the concern has been that the chips are not uniformly colored, a product called Mulch Magic is sold in three colors to produce uniformity.

- Research information will be available soon on using composted material as a topdressing amendment.

- A consortium of golf courses may consider buying a $160,000 machine that physically mixes compost in a windrow.

- The in-vessel compost technology has the most potential for most golf courses with limited land available. An example is a 250-gallon container with a motor that turns it.