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Bill Bengeyfield and Jim Snow
“Unsung heroes” spurred turfgrass research
By Larry Aylward

Burt Musser and Joe Duich
Legends in their own time
By Frank H. Andorka Jr.

Pioneer Superintendents
Six individuals who have helped make the profession what it is today.
By Clay Loyd

Jim Watson
Pioneer in educating superintendents
By Frank H. Andorka Jr.

John M Schilling
Led GCSAA on impressive growth spurt in his 10-year tenure
By Clay Loyd

Eddie Stimpson
He was only trying to bring objectivity to the game — not more headaches for superintendents
By Larry Aylward

Arnold Palmer
The ultimate spokesman for the profession
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Bill Kubly
‘He truly wants to be the best’
By Larry Aylward

Carl Spackler (Bill Murray)
Like it or not, he made an impact on the profession
By Larry Aylward
Cover story

Golfdom salutes 18 people who have changed the face of the industry

24-38

Worth Its Salt

Because of its sodium tolerance, seashore paspalum may become a key grass variety for superintendents in areas plagued by a lack of fresh irrigation water.

By Bruce Allar

Life Goes On

Golfdom's millennium kids are a year old. Are they a year wiser?

By Frank H. Andorka Jr.

About the cover

Herb Graffis, the father of Golfdom, graces our gold-plated cover designed by Lisa Bodnar.
Teed Off
I've been a PGA member since 1986 and director of golf at Buck Hill GC in the Pocono Mountains of northeast Pennsylvania for the last nine years. Some of my best friends are superintendents.

At every club I've worked, I've made sure to have a cordial working relationship with the superintendent and his or her staff, gathering any information that could help me help them do their jobs for the good of the courses. Having said that and after reading your article on compensation for superintendents ("For What You're Worth," November), I must say that it appears some superintendents don't have a grasp of the team concept. I know there are members of my association who have not had an ideal relationship with their superintendents, but for you to highlight K. Clark Rowles dealings ("Payback Time" sidebar) with his pro is irresponsible. I know most superintendents share the beliefs of Gale Hultquist, as does the PGA to strive to raise the profile of our profession. Hello? It's laughable and a needed someone to speak up?

I'm not one to ask for a pity party, but I was once too devoted to the golf industry for my own good. What did it get me? No respect, damaged health and a bitter feeling toward the industry.

But I can say that after 22 years in the profession, I found life elsewhere, and I'm having more fun than ever. I'm lucky in the respect that I found work in a field closely related to the golf course industry. I'm making more money, I have a retirement plan and great benefits, weekends off and 11 holidays. And did I mention love killing those imaginary greens every year that I don't have?

The main drawback for me is that I miss the free golf. My usual 175-plus rounds a year has been drastically cut back to about six rounds, and the 1-plus handicap has suffered. For the first time, I enjoy taking care of the yard, and I'm rediscovering the family and enjoying life as a reward for getting out of the business.

B. Bird, CGCS
Oklahoma

Lankau said, "The business can't operate if we don't work together!" I believe it will flourish if we do.

Tom O'Malley, PGA Pro
Buck Hill GC, Buck Hill Falls, Pa.

Grass Is Greener...
Boy, can I relate to this article (Pin High, November). You bust your butt to provide excellent conditions, only to be told how to manage a course by a member who can't take care of his own yard. Where were you when we (the profession) needed someone to speak up?

But I can say that after 22 years in the profession, I found life elsewhere, and I'm having more fun than ever. I'm lucky in the respect that I found work in a field closely related to the golf course industry. I'm making more money, I have a retirement plan and great benefits, weekends off and 11 holidays. And did I mention love killing those imaginary greens every year that I don't have?

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Oklahoma

Feel like going postal? We want to hear from you. You can e-mail your letters to Larry Aylward at layward@advanstar.com, fax to 440-891-2675 or send them via snail-mail to: 7500 Old Oak Blvd., Cleveland, OH 44130.

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