The growth rate of tree branches can be manipulated by cutting just through the bark of the tree trunk. A cut above a branch, extending about an inch beyond the branch diameter on both sides will result in faster growth. A similar cut below will reduce the growth rate. Thus you can slow down a large limb, accelerate a small one and bring a tree into better balance. How does it work? Cutting below reduces the supply of water and nutrient materials from the roots while cutting above increases the supply.

From the Newsletter GCSA of New England

J. Paul Barefoot
Superintendent of the Year—1975

J. Paul Barefoot, Superintendent of the U.S. Soldiers Home Golf Course and Chief of Maintenance of their 400 acres of immaculate grounds, flower beds, landscaping, and transportation, recently received our association’s most coveted award — Superintendent of the Year.

Paul was selected for this award based on his many years of devoted time and service to our organization. He was a member of the Board of Directors for three years, he has been the chairman of many committees, spoken frequently at educational assemblies, and organized many social functions, including both the picnic and ladies night this past year, each being a big success. In addition to the continuous support Paul has given our association, he also was elected to serve as President in 1974.

Paul also is active in the Professional Grounds Management Society where he has served as President of both the D.C. Branch and the National PGMS. While under Paul’s leadership, the D.C. Branch grew to become the largest branch throughout the nation.

Paul has been with the Solider’s Home since 1964. Prior to becoming a grounds supervisor and golf course superintendent, Paul taught vocational agriculture for six years in Pennsylvania, his home state. Paul graduated from Penn State with a B.S. degree in agriculture and finished his formal education with post graduate work at the University of Wisconsin.

We are very fortunate to have Paul Barefoot as a member of our organization and we are pleased that we are able to show a token of our appreciation by presenting him with the award of “Superintendent of the Year.”