

Association News

JANE ARNETT AWARDED HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

Your Board Officers & Directors

MEMBERS OF THE SPORTS TURF ASSOCIATION elected the 2010/2011 officers and directors at our annual meeting held during the recent Ontario Turfgrass Symposium. Newly elected president is Paul Gillen of AerWay. Gord Dol/Dol Turf Restoration Ltd., president from 2006-2009, now serves as the immediate past president. Andrew Gaydon/Vanden Bussche Irrigation continues as secretary of the association. Returning to the board are directors Dave Chapman/City of Toronto, Bob Kennedy/Sports Turf Management Solutions, and Paul Turner/G.C. Duke Equipment Ltd. Joining the board are directors Ken Pavely/Dol Turf Restoration Ltd., Ben Tymchyshyn/MMM Group and Dennis Wale/City of Brantford.

Others currently serving the association are Rick Lane of the City of St. Catharines/treasurer, and directors Murray Cameron/City of Guelph, Bruce Carman/The Country Day School, Bill Clausen/University of Guelph, Jason Inwood/Town of Vaughan and Tennessee Propedo/City of Hamilton. Jane Arnett/Town of Oakville retired from the board in 2009 and Grant Mckeich/Town of East Gwillimbury did not stand for reelection. "This is an exciting time for the STA as we look to grow into the future. We are fortunate to have very knowledgeable and dedicated people serving on the board. I look forward to working with them and learning from them as we work hard to fulfill the needs and mandates of our membership," said incoming President Paul Gillen.



2010/2011 STA Board of Directors. Front left to right: Lee Huether, Paul Gillen. Middle L-R: Andrew Gaydon, Paul Turner, Murray Cameron, Ben Tymchyshyn. Back L-R: Jason Inwood, Ken Pavely, Bill Clausen, Rick Lane, Bob Kennedy, Gord Dol. Absent from photo: Bruce Carman, Dave Chapman, Tennessee Propedo, Dennis Wale.

A TRIBUTE TO JANE

VIVACIOUS, INTELLIGENT, charming, dedicated – the dictionary lacks the words to adequately describe Jane Arnett.

The STA constitution and by-laws state that an Honorary Membership may be granted to an individual, nominated by the membership, and approved by the STA Board, in recognition of outstanding contributions to the sports turf industry. Jane fully satisfies that requirement.

Andrew Gaydon, long-time association member, director and board secretary, introduced the honoree at our recent AGM as "very professional, very hard working and very good for the STA," adding, "and don't have a detailed discussion with her unless you know your facts!"

There have been only six recipients of the prestigious award in the STA's twenty-three year history. Jane joins the ranks of James Boyce (1989), Norman Rothwell (1989), Clayton Switzer (1992), Robert Sheard (1998), Michael Bladon (2000) and Christopher Mark (2005).

A Driving Force With The STA

Jane joined the STA in 1991 and within three years illustrated her full dedication to the association by being elected to the board. Her service on various committees of the board and enthusiasm as a director made her an obvious choice for vice-president in 1998, then to serve as president in 2000 and past-president in 2002. She continued to serve as a director until 2009 when a new, more demanding position with the Town >>



Honorary Life Member. Jane Arnett and Andrew Gaydon at the recent AGM.

ARNETT TRIBUTE... of Oakville cut short her time to dedicate to the association.

During her 18 years as a member, Jane served for one or more terms as a member of the OTS Program Committee, the Field Day Committee, and the Editorial Committees for the Sports Turf Manager, Understanding Turf Management and Athletic Field Construction Manual. To each she contributed her valuable practical knowledge on “how it is actually done on the job.” In addition, she authored several articles for the Sports Turf Manager. To make the various initiatives of the board a success, Jane also became

a charming, determined, sometimes fearsome, and very successful, recruiter of sponsorship funds.

A formidable advocate of the STA, Jane excelled in her efforts to make the organization a part of the Parks and Open Space Alliance (POSA). Because she saw a need for STA involvement in the alliance to better serve the STA membership and the industry, she served as the STA representative on the POSA committee during its initial development. As part of her initiatives on behalf of STA, she furthered the education mandate of the STA by acting as coordinator of the new Sports Turf Management and Maintenance Course, assigning the STA with the appropriate responsibility for the educational segment in turf management.

Professional Success

Jane commenced her career with the Town of Oakville as a cemetery operator in 1987; quickly became a lead hand in parks maintenance, and by 1991 she was Supervisor of Parks with district wide responsibilities. In 2007, recognizing her expertise in turf management, Jane was promoted to Manager of Parks Maintenance with responsibility for turf maintenance, sports turf maintenance and winter control operations on a town-wide basis. In early 2010, in recognition of her overall leadership skills, abilities and talent in all phases of park maintenance, Jane was appointed Senior Manager of Parks Operations.

On the Homefront

Over the years, along with managing her career goals and providing dedicated and outstanding service to the STA, Jane has lead a busy family life, raising two boys, Jake and Adam. Jake is completing his degree in Business Administration at Wilfred Laurier University and Adam is an accomplished analyst at Scotia Capital in Investment Banking and Mergers & Acquisitions. Adam has recently been accepted to the MBA program at Oxford University beginning in October. Jane is extremely proud of their accomplishments.

Jane did not recognize any glass ceiling for women in the male-dominated world of sports turf management. Instead, she is a true inspiration. Congratulations, Jane, and much success in all of your future ventures (somehow, I’m sure you’ll do just fine!). *By Bob Sheard*

Odds & Ends


SUMMER 2010 DEADLINE

If you have something you’d like to submit for the next issue, please forward it to the STA office by May 28.

EDITORIAL CONTENT

Opinions expressed in articles published in the “Sports Turf Manager” are those of the author and not necessarily those of the STA.

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