

GCSAA — Chapter Relations News

By: Leon Snethen

On September 8, 9, and 10, there was a chapter relations meeting held in Lawrence, Kansas. The main topic of discussion was the new affiliation agreement proposed by the Chapter Relations Committee. I will cover the high points of the agreement and the most controversial issues.

Probably the most controversial issue proposed was the desire for common membership. The goal of GCSAA is to increase the number of members to reflect a majority of all golf courses. The importance is to be more influential as a central spokesman for our profession and to offer more benefits, education and support to its members.

The original proposal mandated at 51% common membership by 2000, 75% by 2005 and 100% by 2010. This would have given all chapters 15 years to comply with the agreement. This area of the agreement took over 4 hours to settle. The final outcome is a mandate that effective July 1, 1997 all new members must join both the GCSAA and the local chapter. By choosing this line of thought, we only effect future members and there is no impact to our present membership. Somewhere in the future there will be a total common membership, although it may take 40 to 60 years. This mandate may be changed in the future through the agreement of the affiliated chapters.

This change will take a

bylaws amendment to make official and will be proposed to the membership at the Orlando Meeting. We also will need to make some bylaw changes to bring our bylaws more in line with the GCSAA. Some of the changes will be:

- Membership classification needs minor modification.
- The board must consist of a majority of Class A & B GCSAA superintendents.
- The officers must be Class A GCSAA superintendents.

These are the highlights and after further review, we may need a few more minor changes. This is not a significant impact to us. Our past president, Randy Gai is our Bylaws Committee Chairman and will be in charge of the needed changes. More information on this later

There were 95 Chapter Representatives in attendance out of 116 affiliated chapters. Approximately 26 were not represented.

GCSAA realizes some chapters may not be willing to comply, but feels there will be new chapters formed who are willing to obtain the goal of common membership.

Other items discussed were:

- Enhancing requirements for Class A member by requiring CEU's through serving on the Board or Committees at the local and national level or through education. It is a move to enhance the image and "brand name" the classification much like the certification process.

(Continued on Page 7, Col. 1)

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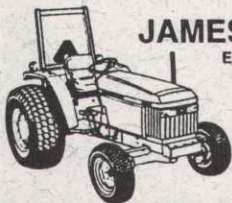
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October, 1995

News (Cont'd.)

- There will be changes in the Seminar Program effective January 1, 1996. We will no longer receive a rebate on seminars for attendance over 40. This service loses \$200,000 to \$250,000 per year. In turn there will be only 20 required attendees instead of 25.
- GCSAA on line computer network will be introduced at the 1997 Las Vegas Conference and Show.
- All in all it was a good meeting, well organized and well presented. This was my first trip to Lawrence and I was very impressed with the Headquarters building and the accommodations provided. The Saturday meeting started with Continental Breakfast at 7:15 and concluded at 6:30 P.M. After this we were taken to the Kansas State Alumni Association for dinner and a hosted bar. The meal was great. The Sunday meeting started with biscuits and gravy at 6:15 and concluded at 2:30 P.M. allowing enough time to get to the Airport in time for the respective flights home. Thank you for the opportunity to represent our chapter in this important agreement. ❖

Abuse (Cont'd.)

8. Are my cutting heights appropriate to promote a healthy turf of the species desired?
9. Am I truly making my best attempt to implement IPM strategies?

In this case, IPM is not just "Integrated Pest Management" but may also be looked at as "Integrated Plant Management". This may actually mean **not growing** a pure stand of either bent or *Poa annua* but possibly an integrated blend on greens that will allow peak performance during all segments of the season. *Poa annua* can dominate when wet and cool conditions exist while the bentgrass will shine during the heat of summer. This concept has become very popular in parts of California where two distinctly different seasons exist on the opposite ends of the calendar.

Please stop and think about finding a way for your turf to kick the habit. You are the doctor prescribing the medicine and the public is looking to put you out of business for malpractice.

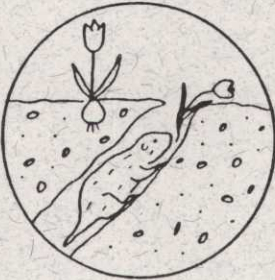
Only you can stop turf substance abuse! ❖

Superintendents Wife's Top 10 List

10. He is the only person in the family who gets undressed outside the house at the end of his work day.
9. "My husband has really strange tan lines."
8. "He never listens to what I have to say when he gets home, but listens to every word that Jenneta Jones says on The Weather Channel."
7. All his co-workers look like the cast from *Caddy Shack*.
6. When he wakes up at 3 a.m., it's not to go and see his girlfriend, but to make sure the irrigation system turned on.
5. "All the post-it notepads in our house say 'Pro Lawn' on them."
4. "My husband has a spot of black grease on every piece of clothing he owns."
3. "We have the ugliest lawn in the neighborhood."
2. When he talks in his sleep, or, for that matter, when he is awake, he states, 'Ah, the smell of Dursban.'
1. "When he helps me vacuum, he always stripes our carpet in a checkerboard pattern."

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