
JB VISITATIONS:

LaManga, Spain - January

Participated in the European PGA Tour Greenkeepers Conference. The attendees at this four-day event are the greenkeepers at the various European PGA Tour sites. It's quite a high level group with similar problems in hosting a major international tournament. The unique interaction with this group is very positive learning experience. The entire week is paid by the European PGA Tour. Why doesn't the American PGA Tour group sponsor a similar type meeting? It would certainly be of great benefit to those involved!

East Lansing, Michigan - January

Participated as an invited speaker in the 65th Annual Michigan Turfgrass Conference. Enjoyed the opportunity to present two lectures, a seminar, and the banquet presentation. The latter consisted of a history of the evolution of the Turfgrass Program at Michigan State University. It was an enjoyable opportunity and reminded the younger attendees that what they enjoy today in research and education did not always exist and that many people worked very hard to bring it to the current level. Over 1,300 turf professionals were in attendance, which is amazing since there is no equipment-trade show. This is no doubt the largest turfgrass conference of this type.

During the conference my wife, Harriet, and I were honored by the naming of the James and Harriet Beard Graduate Fellowship to be endowed at Michigan State University. We are proud, yet humbled, by this acknowledgement and effort on the part of the Michigan turfgrass industry and the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation.

Harrogate, England - January

Presented a seminar plus a major address before the British and International Golf Greenkeepers (BIGGA) Education Conference and Seminar Program. This is a major European Turfgrass Conference and Show that continues to grow.

Bradenton, Florida - February

Presented the invitational keynote lecture before the Sports Turf Manager's Association (STMA) Annual Winter Conference. The attitude of those in attendance was very "up beat" and promising. The emergence of this organization is key to the professional development of the sports field managers. Certainly, the efforts of the STMA leadership must be acknowledged and supported by all sports turf professionals throughout the United States. It is needed to help develop a truly professional status for the sports turf manager. The evolution that is occurring in the STMA is much like what I observed with the Golf Course Superintendents Association some years ago.

PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE:

The Spirit of St. Andrews.

Author Dr. Alister Mackenzie. 270 pp. (1995)
This represents a lost manuscript of Dr. Alister Mackenzie written in approximately 1933. "The Spirit of St. Andrews is one of golf's unique treasures that has never before been published. This book captures the genius of Mackenzie with his thoughts/writings on great golf holes, golf courses, technology out-stripping design, unique stories, rules, and the golf swing. Also included is the original foreword of Robert Tyre Jones, Jr. The book has wonderful photographs and illustrations from many courses including Cypress Point, Augusta National, Pasatiempo, and St. Andrews. There is a map of his "Survey of St. Andrews" that was commissioned by the Royal and Ancient. The book is initially being published as a limited collectors edition of 1500 leather bound copies. The cost is US \$250 each, with all books shipped 2nd class air at no charge.

Contact: Sleeping Bear Press, 121 South Main Street, Suite B, Chelsea, Michigan, 48188 USA
Phone: 313-475-4411.
Fax: 313-475-0787.