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# Encouraging Wildlife on golf courses



### WETLANDS

Many golf courses exhibit some water feature, natural or artificial. This section will deal with the management of these features for wildlife.

**PONDS** need careful management to ensure the continuation of a balanced community. Older ponds are more likely to have established communities of amphibians: frogs, toads and newts. The Great Crested Newt is protected by law: advice on this creature can be obtained from local wildlife organisations or the Flora and Fauna Preservation Society. or British Herpetelogical Society

Plants which are attractive to all types of wildlife are yellow and white waterlilies, water crowfoot in the pond, reedmace (generally known as bullrush) and bogbean, yellow flag, and water forget-me-not. In the marshy surrounds plants such as marsh marigold, bugle and meadowsweet will flourish. Dragonflies and damselflies will be attracted to a healthy pond and add a great deal to the visual interest.

curked pondweed

submerged flooting aquatics aquatics 35 chiss ragged robin yellow Agg bur-veed bugte reed lesser spearwort mezdow buttercup reedmace brooklime water lily marsh marigold flowening rush marsh orchid water milfoil emphibious bisort

**POND CREATION** and management is a relatively simple business as long as the following are borne in mind:

• do not allow water from fertilized areas to drain into the pond. This will create an imbalance in the nutrient levels in the water and will lead to excessive algal growth. The pond will soon look like peasoup and will be of little value.

• do not allow trees to overshadow the pond. This prevents light reaching the pond and prevents water plants from producing the oxygen which is vital to the health of the water. Falling leaves are also a problem as they can cause serious silting.

• do remove tall trees from the south edge of the pond. This will allow light to reach the plants. Do leave trees, shrubs, and grass on the other edges. This provides cover for young amphibians and other creatures. It is best to leave an unmown area around the pond edge.

• do not spray chemicals nearby if the wind will carry the "drift" towards a pond. Wind blown chemicals can have a disastrous effect on the pond life.

• do remove excess silt from the pond but only in the autumn. At this time of year amphibians are not breeding or hibernating and so damage is minimised.

• do refer to the diagram of suitable plants. Planting of ponds must be planned to include various plants for different levels.

A great variety of insects live and breed in the pond: dragonflies, and damselflies spend their larval stage in the pond but also require emergent vegetation when they leave the pond to take to the air. These and other insects are snapped up by swooping housemartins and bats.

emergent plants

DITCHES, STREAMS AND RIVERS support a different, more hardy vegetation as conditions fluctuate from season to season. Rushes, mosses, liverworts, ferns, and various flowering plants, frogs and toads, grass snakes and even eels are all common in these environments. Management of the vegetation should be planned to remove excessive growth but is best done by implementing a rotation, so that certain areas are left growing while others are cut back.

This extract from a report by the London Wildlife Trust is part of a survey aimed at encouraging wildlife on golf courses.

The Trust formed in 1981 is among the country's leading nature conservation groups.

The results of the work by Maureen Fordham and the Director of the London Wildlife Trust, Jeremy Iles is worthy of far greater distribution than confined to the areas around London.

Copies of the full report can be obtained price £1.25 from London Wildlife Trust, 80 York Way, London N19AG or by telephoning 01 278 6612.

**Golf Greenkeeping** are grateful to the Trust for their permission to print extracts from their survey. Golfers and Greenkeepers alike have a common interest in encouraging wildlife to their courses.

It is part of the pleasure in golf to see and hear Britain's indigenous birds and animals in their natural habitat.

This section of the report deals with ponds, ditches and streams. In later issues of the magazine other natural habitats will be examined.

The Editor would also like to hear from Greenkeepers about their own efforts to encourage wildlife on their courses.

Editor's note - The green construction article will be held over for a future date.

marsh plauts

marginal plants

water mint

# PHOENIX, ARIZONA John Lelean reports on the GCSAA Convention and Show

Why is it that a business trip abroad invariably produces the comment around the bar of the 19th -'Have you had a good holiday?' The eight day trip to Phoenix to visit the GCSAA Annual Convention was certainly enjoyable, interesting, educational, informative, well worth the effort - but holiday!

Our party who included the Jacobsen Tournament winners, Peter Shaw from Preston and Adrian Stiff, Tracey Park, left Heathrow by TWA an hour late due to snow problems across the Atlantic. Despite an early arrival at Heathrow to book adjacent seats, on boarding the Jumbo 747, we found the aircraft already half full with passengers from a previous flight, whose plane had failed to arrive.

It seemed for a time it was to be either standing room only or those without a seat proceed to Gatwick.

> The first leg to New York took about six hours where incoming passengers went through the usual immigration procedures. 'Stand on the white line and don't move until you are told'. However on this occasion the queue did move reasonably quickly.

> Baggage was checked by customs and then it was a short walk through the John F. Kennedy airport to the domestic flight departure to Phoenix - Sky Harbor.

> This flight was considerably more civilised, with a great deal more room to stretch out and curl up for a much needed sleep. There was also the opportunity to spot the odd familiar face, such as Christine Smith from the IOG, Jonathan Franks from British Seed Houses and Sunningdale's Jack McMillan.

> On arrival at Phoenix, quite an exciting experience as one descends over the mountain ranges into the vast valleys alive with flickering lights, we telephoned to our chosen hotel for transport. Imagine our surprise when what should arrive but a shining white London Taxi-Cab! Certainly a tight squeeze but we made it.

- 1. Setting off to explore the 'Wild West'.
- What could be nicer than a dip in the heated hotel pool after a long tiring day at the Convention!
- 3. Tree like cacti dominate the new golf course at Troon Village.
- Jacobsen had one of the biggest and busiest stands at the Show.
- 5. Ocotillo Golf Course abounded with lakes. The brown patches are dormant bermuda grass, not bear ground.
- The vast indoor exhibition housed ever conceivable piece of equipment for use on the golf course.

#### The Ultimate in 'One Upmanship'



Golf carts are very big business for American Golf Courses.

A 27 hole complex would have around 180, many making two trips a day.

For the golfer looking for the touch extra this mini 'Roller' has colour T.V. above the driver, video camera for recording the putt that sinks, a built in bar with ice-box and mobile telephone to keep in touch with the office.

It is surprising how the tiredness lifts after such a trip and after an exploratory tour of the Westcourt in the Buttes hotel, certainly the best appointed most of us have ever seen, it was 'down-town' to an all-night diner to experience a real hamburger with all the trimmings. If one wants to eat well in clean, neat surroundings, with friendly helpful staff, the roadside diners take a great deal of beating.

Our main objective was to visit the American Golf Course Superintendents Convention and Exhibition, attend some of the seminars and if time permitted, see a few golf courses.

#### **Outstanding Hospitality**

It should be said from the outset, the GCSAA hospitality to the British contingent was outstanding. Through their newly appointed public relations man, Bob Still, they did everything possible to make our visit memorable. We congratulate him on his appointment and thank him for his kindness and concern.

As far as visiting golf courses was concerned we managed to go one better, through the good offices of Abe Hughes of the host section, the Cactus & Pine GCSA. He offered to arrange a round of golf for exhibition visitors at one of a number of courses in the Phoenix area. We were able to take advantage of this offer and play two courses, El Caro and Ocotillo. The first was a small privately owned par 60 where taking a golf cart or walking was optional. At Ocotillo the golf cart was mandatory, but with the temperatures in the mid 70's riding was certainly preferable to walking over the 6,600 yard course.

Another unexpected bonus visit was to the Karstang factory, the home of Ping golf clubs. We managed to join the small, twice weekly tour, to see the world famous clubs assembled and appreciate the precision and technical application required to produce a golf club developed by an engineer in aerodynamics. It is hard to believe the demand for golf clubs is such it keeps a workforce of around 1,500 fully occupied for six days a week. Even then there is a waiting period of around sixteen weeks for the new copper headed irons, despite the £1,000 price tag.

continued on p.20



# GIVE YOU AND YOUR CLUB IWICE THE PERFORMANCE!

Sprinklers, the sharp end of a golf course watering system are vitally important to the economics, efficiency and long term viability of your club's investment! If your club is thinking of installing or improving an

If your club is thinking of installing or improving an existing water system, now is the time to consider the types of sprinklers to be used...

#### Consider these important points: -1. CORROSION & DAMAGE

Unlike sprinklers containing corrosive metal working parts, Toro Sprinklers are engineered with hi-tech. plastics such as 'Cycolac<sup>®</sup>' and 'Delrin<sup>®</sup>'. This eliminates corrosion whilst making each sprinkler highly resistant to impact damage.! (It also saves expensive mower blades from accidental damage!)

#### 2. EFFECTIVE COVERAGE

Being gear driven each Toro Sprinkler provides a smooth, uninterupted working action which enhances water distribution.

#### **3. SELF PROTECTION**

The gear drive assembly inside a Toro Sprinkler is lubricant sealed and, therefore, protected from waterborne materials such as particles of sand. This ensures the gears work smoothly and helps reduce maintenance. 4. WET SPOTS

#### 4. WET SPOT

Check Valves also eliminate the problems of 'low head drainage' and the need for gravel sumps on low lying areas.

#### **5. INDIVIDUAL CONTROL**

The valves also enable greens staff to use sprinklers individually – applying larger or smaller amounts of water on selected parts of the course...

#### 6. EASE OF MAINTENANCE

Toro Sprinklers are designed to make servicing simple. Repairs can be carried out on the spot – no need to take the sprinkler away to a workbench!

#### 7. IMPROVED WARRANTIES

Toro now offer increased Warranty protection for large size sprinklers - in some instances these have been given twice the length of validity - there's confidence!

#### 8. WHO USES TORO SPRINKLERS?

St. Andrews, the All England Lawn Tennis & Croquet Club, Wimbledon and Wembley Stadium – three good examples! Consider these points then ask your nearest Toro

distributor for the facts. He will explain how £ for £ your club can enjoy twice the performance.



Your Toro Distributors are: Home Counties, East Anglia & South East Golf Landscapes Irrigation, Brentwood. Tel: 0277-73720 South & South West Irrigation Slurry Services, Downton, Wilts. Tel: 0725-20377 Midlands, North, Scotland & Wales Turf Irrigation Services, Sandbach. Tel: 04775-255

Emon twice the performance

The Bunton 22 inch greensmower is probably the most expensive pedestrian mower ever made. It retails at £2,950. Although sold under the Bunton name the machine is manufactured in Japan.

E. P. Barrus Limited have formed a new division within the Company to handle professional grass care machinery and now represent Bunton, who manufacture both in the U.S.A. and Denmark.

The Bunton Company is well known to north American golf superintendents and have been building commercial mowers for over thirty five years and has always prided itself on developing equipment that satisfies the particular needs of professional greenkeepers and groundsmen.

The Bunton special 22" pedestrian greens mower manufactured for them in Japan is of particular interest to greenkeepers.

The machine has a powered rotary brush mounted between the front roller and the reel, the brush rotates in the opposite direction to raise the grass before it is cut. The brush is easily adjusted to suit the pitch of the bottom blade and can be raised to reduce the amount of pressure on the grass, or disengaged for mowing without the brush. It can be replaced with a verticut attachment for thatching.

Equal power is supplied to both sides of the heavy gauge aluminium alloy drive roller to ensure a straight blade cut. The nine-blade, cutting reel is highly resilient and resistant to wear.

Quick release wheels are fitted with pneumatic transport tyres to give good adhesion on uphill ground: it has an all gear drive train and a 3.5hp Robin engine. Other features include a plastic grass box specially designed to catch all the cuttings and hold them. The 20" Zephyr from Greens of Arbroath is distributed by Claymore Grass Machinery.

It has a 10 bladed cutting cylinder and a superfine bottom blade, giving 140 cuts per metre.

There is a choice of three engines, the Honda, Villiers and Briggs and Stratton and the cut can be adjusted from 1" down to 3/32".

A number of improvements have been made in the past year including powered transport wheels. Retailing at £898.00 plus VAT, it is one of the more competitively priced machines for cutting golf greens.

Lloyds of Letchworth manufacture the Paladin self propelled greens mower, still regarded by many greenkeepers as the machine to obtain the finest finish. The height of cut is adjusted by a single knob which calibrates in one thousandth of an inch. The cylinder is eight bladed operating at a faster speed than other pedestrian machines. The additional stress is overcome by fitting tapered roller bearings instead of the usual ball bearings. This prolongs the life of the machine.

Priced at well over £1,000 the Lloyds Paladin is not a cheap greens mower but it does have a reputation for reliability.

The Atco Club range starts at around  $\pounds600$  rising to  $\pounds1,000$  for the B20 Special. The top of the range has a '12 bladed cylinder giving 134 cuts per yard with an adjustment from 1/16" to  $1\frac{3}{4}$ " on cutting height. The cutting width is 20".

The Club B20 Special also has transport wheels and an adjustable comb attachment.

There is a trend for greenkeepers to return to the use of lighter pedestrian mowers for cutting greens. Many believe it reduces the problems of compaction and build-up of thatch.

> The 'Turf Groomer'<sup>TM</sup>, the green conditioner first introduced last year for the Greens King IV, has now been adapted to fit onto the Jacobsen pedestrian range of greensmowers.

Ransomes' range of greens mowers are three basic machines. The new GT Greens Triple launched last year, the widely used Triplex 171 and an old favourite, the pedestrian controlled Auto Certes.

The GT Greens Triple with 127mm (5in.) diameter 9-knife cutting cylinders can also be supplied with cutting units for tees as well as verticut and vibra spiker units. Hydraulically driven, each unit is interchanged without the use of tools.

Powered by a 8.9kw (12hp) twin cylinder Kubota water cooled diesel engine mounted on rubber mounts to keep vibration to a minimum, the new GT Greens Triple has an uncut turning diameter of 1m (40in) with power steering.

#### GT Modifications Power Steering Added

Since the prototype was demonstrated last August, modifications have taken place at Ransomes Nacton Works to improve the steering geometry. At the same time power steering has been added. This has improved the turning circle according to Brian Mitchell the Ransomes Technical Manager.

The GT Greens Triple is now in production and the first batch due to be delivered to dealers by the end of February has already been sold out. from revolving and the cutting units from either rising or lowering the engine will continue running when he dismounts. But as a safety measure if the foot pedal controlling ground speed is touched by anything, at any time, the engine stops automatically.

Still a firm favourite, the Auto Certes 10-knife cutting cylinder with a choice of 4 stroke engines gives 148 cuts per metre (135 cuts per yard). Height of cut is adjustable from 3 to 19mm ( $\frac{1}{6}$ " to  $\frac{3}{4}$ ").

An important feature of the Ransomes Auto Certes is its two-part fully machined smooth cast aluminium landroll with tapered ends which incorporates a differential, to make for easy turning without marking the fine turf.



## PRICE COMPARISON for pedestrian mowers

Atco Club B20 Special £1,004

Bunton 22 inch Greensmower (including all extras) £2,950

Greens Zephyrs Superfine 20 inch £898.00

Jacobsen 22 inch Walk Behind £1,490.00

Turf Groomer Attachment £680.00

(including all optional extras) £2,100.00

Lloyds Paladine 21 inch £1,125.00 (optional extras add) £139.00

Ransomes Auto Certes 20 inch Briggs & Stratton £1,062.00

> Villiers Engine £1,130.00

(optional extras add) £146.00

All prices exclusive of VAT

The operator's platform on Ransomes new allhydraulic GT Triple Greens Mower can be raised in seconds for easy access to the centre cutting unit and to empty the grasscatcher.

The late Lawrence L. Lloyd, past member of the GCSAA and inventor of the Turf Groomer<sup>™</sup> greens conditioner, was honoured at a reception in Phoenix by the Jacobsen Division of Textron Inc.

At the reception, John R. Dwyer, Jr. President of Jacobsen, presented Mrs. Barbara Lloyd with a plaque commemorating her husband's contributions to modern turf care equipment design.

Lawrence Lloyd the Superintendent of a Californian Golf Course developed and tested the Turf Groomer<sup>TM</sup> over a period of two years. His primary goal was to combat fast thatch build-up on putting greens, but his invention proved to be beneficial in a number of ways. Improved green consistency, increased green speed without lowering cutting height, and improved control of broadleaf weeds and Bermuda creepage on green fringes were just a few of these additional benefits.

Lloyd who died tragically last year of a massive heart attack was vice president and superintendent at the Rancho Canada Golf Club in Carmel. Jacobsen purchased his patent in 1985. As part of the patent purchase agreement, the Lloyd estate receives income from the sale of each Turf Groomer<sup>TM</sup>.

Priority for dealer delivery has been given to those outlets who have obtained firm sales from golf courses.

To maintain the same quality of finish on every green a digital readout, calibrated in cuts per metre, enables the required cutting ratio to be selected and then set for mowing speeds up to 8 km/h (5mph). Transporting the mower between greens at speeds of up to 12 km/h (7½ mph) does not disturb the setting.

#### Interlock System Incorporated

During prototype trials on golf courses the engine needed to be stopped and restarted every time the grass catchers needed emptying. To overcome this an interlock system has been incorporated. Provided the operator leaves the controls in the correct position to prevent the cylinders The Toro 300 Triplex is still one of the most popular greens machines world wide, but with their two main competitors, Jacobsen and Ransomes introducing the diesel engine it is surprising Toro have not followed along similar lines.

It was fully expected that Toro would have unveilled a diesel version of their Triplex at this year's Phoenix Exhibition but instead, as far as greens machines are concerned they produced a prototype version of the 'turf groomer'.

Naturally Jacobsen, who have patented the invention by a Californian Golf Course Superintendent were somewhat upset and it is understood some hard words were exchanged between the executives of the two companies. Threats of writs were in the air and unless Toro can show their groomer is not a violation of patent it is doubtful whether it will ever make the production lines.

Arizona can almost be described as the State of 'instant golf courses'. The homeland of the Navajo and Hopi Indians, has now been transformed from the stark desert terrain so familiar to viewers of western films by the engineering miracles of irrigation. First by the construction of the Roosevelt Dam and then, in 1936, by the building of the mammoth Hoover Dam on the Colorado River.

The raw inhospitable desert where only sage bushes and cacti flourish would seem to be about the last place to produce lush fairways and billiard table greens, but a combination of the right grass seed and an abundance of water has transformed Phoenix Valley into one of the fastest growing cities in the United States.

The climate in Arizona, hot in Summer, pleasantly warm in Winter, with a low humidity, is attracting vast numbers of people from all over the United States. Many come to escape the harsh winters further north, others to live and work in this developing and thriving tourist area.

There are currently over one hundred golf courses in the Valley with around twenty more under construction to cater for a population of about a million people. A fair proportion are municipal, but the majority have been developed by real estate property companies, where the financial return is achieved by selling and renting what is known in the USA as condominiums. Flats, houses and maisonettes adjacent to the course, which invariably includes the right to membership of the club.

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STATISTICS OF STATISTICS

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John Lelean visits the new type of desert courses.

S

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The seventh at Troon Village showing the differing shades of ryegrass winter fairway and bermuda grass collars.

Two of Arizona's finest championship golf courses have been built 25 miles to the north of Phoenix at Scottsdale under the mountain known as Pinnacle Peak. Desert Highlands, the first to be constructed, was to a design by Jack Nicklaus, the second a few yards across the highway, the newest of the two, Troon Village designed by Tom Weiskopf and architect Jay Morrish.

#### "We didn't even use any drawings it was already there"

The par three, fifteenth hole, 'Troon Mountain' was recently included in the 100 greatest holes on all American golf courses by the Golf magazine. 'This was a natural', said Tom Weiskopf. 'I saw that hole in my mind right away. We didn't even use any drawings - it was already there''.

Troon Village is a truly desert course, where the lush velvet fairways wind through the giant cacti. Lakes abound, a strange sight in a landscape more associated with the wild west and bands of marauding Indians.

Domestic water for the valley is brought down from the Colorado River by concrete lined canals. The water to irrigate the ever increasing number of golf courses is provided by reclaiming and purifying the sewage effluent. A double use of one supply.

It is said to be completely uncontaminated, though dead fish were seen around the edges of the lakes at both Troon, the Tournament Players Club at Scottsdale and further south at Ocotillo, a course built on rejected farming land. In all probability it is unlikely to be the water, but possibly a fish fungal disease or mis-placed herbicide. The greens at most courses are sown with Penncross, providing a firm true and fast putting surface. Certainly at the four courses already mentioned and another par 60 called El Caro all had firm greens despite the need for constant irrigation.

The drainage system under the sand construction destroyed the myth that all American golf courses have wet, soggy, target type greens. To stop the ball on the green requires just as much golfing skill as it does on Britain's championship links.

Playing Ocotillo, what was believed to be a fine second shot to the green across the lake with a fairway wood failed to hold and bounced through. What is more the pitch mark was scarcely discernible.

Tees are mainly sown with Penncross Eagle and the fairways and rough, if one could insult the fairway collars as rough, are seeded with Bermuda grass.

Bermuda grass dies off during the winter months to show a two to three inch depth of thick dead light brown coloured matting. Not difficult to play from but requiring a firm wrist action to regain the cut grass area.

To provide the dense velvet fairways during the winter months the course is oversown with rye grass. This in turn dies out in the summer heat when the Bermuda grass grows through.

Several courses allowed the bunker surrounds to be framed by the dead Bermuda grass, which made them look as if the collars had been sprayed with a herbicide but it did bring the sand traps into focus and they were visually very attractive from the tee positions.

The small party of British Greenkeepers who visited the Troon Village and the T.P.C. at Scottsdale were management and were given every facility to walk the course and see the construction and maintenance techniques employed. Much of the equipment is similar to that used in Britain. Greens are cut with a triplex, mainly Jacobsen and Toro; fairways with the 350D or similar machines.

At Troon Village we were all impressed with the ultra tidiness of the course. There was nothing out of place. Even the recent cut divots on the fairways had been freshly repaired with a sand and seed mixture.

Every two or three holes a large container of fresh water, with a column of paper cups was sited by the tee. This was a feature found at all the golf clubs visited. At Ocotillo they went one better when a caddy car with a rear mounted bar arrived driven by a blonde candidate for 'page 3' offering iced beers or something softer.

Staffing levels are considerably higher than in Britain. Again our party were noticeably green with envy while playing Ocotillo to see four Mexican greenstaff raking one bunker with wire sprung rakes. Nearby four more were taking weed from the lake surface using scoops on 20 feet poles. At least four others were seen cutting fairways and approaches with the Jacobsen HF5, a Toro 350 and a Ransomes 180.

Golf in the United States is big business and treated as such by the financiers. Wage rates reflect the importance given to those who manage the golf courses. Not only salaries but status as well is at a premium.

The Course Manager, Superintendent is regarded as the most important person at the club.

He ranks above the professional and often above the administrator of even the most prestigious club house complex. It is recognised that without his abilities to keep the course in perfect order, the other functions such as restaurant, professional's shop and sales of property would not exist.

#### 'Kings within their own Kingdom'

The standard of the golf course has a direct bearing on the price that can be asked for the surrounding property. With competition so fierce to bring in new property owners, the top superintendents are 'Kings within their own Kingdom'.

Troon Village is a case in point. As the newest of the two courses at Pinnacle Peak there is tremendous competition with Desert Highlands built some two years earlier.

To become a member at Troon, one first has to buy a plot of land, currently selling at 250,000 dollars. Membership of the club then costs 25,000 dollars plus a subscription of about 175 dollars a month.

Potential members at these prices are hardly queueing to join so the standard of the golf is paramount.

We were told Troon has a current membership of 62, but they are hoping to entice some of the Desert Highland members to sell their property and cross the road!

The club rules state - no casual visitors -, but if you can find a member willing to pay a hundred dollars to take you round as a guest then the delights of this magnificent golf course are yours.

Among several invitations, including the GCSAA Banquet on the final day, a number of the UK visitors attended a reception by the Toro Organisation and the Jacobsen International Dinner. Jacobsen's event, comprising some sixty guests, was a truly cosmopolitan affair with representatives from every country where golf is played. What is more, despite the range of nationalities and many differing languages, there seemed to be no bar to communication.

The conference began with educational seminars - almost 400 hours were offered throughout the eight days of the conference - and ended with more educational seminars, sessions and special events. Among the highlights of the conference week activities were award presentations, personal appearances of famous speakers, a huge trade show, a gala banquet with big-name entertainment, allied golf association seminars and more educational programmes.

#### **Record Attendance**

The Trade Show opened on Saturday at the Phoenix Civic Plaza. Among the 331 exhibits were 81 exhibitors new to the show. Last year in San Francisco, 317 companies exhibited their products - 74 for the first time - and in Washington, D.C., the year before, 292 exhibits were on display. The attendance record was also broken with 12,588 registering throughout the week. Additional Educational programs were also conducted by the USGA Green Section, the American Society of Golf Course Architects, the National Golf Foundation (NGF) and the Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA).

An international session was also held on the opening day of the Trade Show, with speakers from China, Sweden, Japan, Mexico, the Philippines and Britain.

The Association Vice-Chairman, Jack McMillan, explained the problems besetting the British greenkeepers through their various Associations and the work that had been done to unite the profession under the BIGGA banner.

Howard Swan took the audience through the traditions of the starting point of golf on the Scottish Links and its initial development inland on the heathlands of the home counties.

Our third representative, Jim Arthur, headed his presentation 'Common Sense and Technology', but rather like the Member of Parliament who fell foul to the lashing from the Rt. Hon. Winston Spencer Churchill he was somewhat 'overcome by the exuberance of his own verbosity' and incurred the wrath of at least two members of his audience.

The first, an old protaganist, Jim Wyllie, from the Bay View Golf and Country Club, Toronto and secondly from Richard Fry, a British Marketing Consultant, who at one time headed the Amenity Turf Chemical Sales Division of May & Baker. He took exception to the suggestion that the Agro-Chemical Industry since the banning of DDT had produced chemicals with an even greater degree of toxicity.

However, it was a lively session to end the proceedings, but perhaps unfortunate that the audience was somewhat sparse and dominated by a substantial representation from this side of the Atlantic.

#### Award for Trent Jones Snr.

The newly elected Association President Donald Hearn told a full house at the annual Banquet, "I am very honoured and humbled to assume the presidency of GCSAA. This is a great time for GCSAA and its membership to grow and expand its services".

Later in the programme, NBC golf commentator Jay Randolph presented GCSAA's highest honour - the Old Tom Morris Award - to Robert Trent Jones, Snr.

He described "Trent Jones as the Beethoven of the golf world, designing one masterpiece after another". Of Ballybunion's new course, also a creation of Trent Jones Jay Randolph quoted Golf World's writer, Peter Dobereiner who wrote - "I have no hesitation in proclaiming this course a masterpiece, the greatest links course in the world, and by a clear margin". Jones accepted the Old Tom Morris Award and then shared personal thoughts and concerns about the future of the game he loves so much. He believed the design of courses will be hurt tremendously if the authorities don't do something about the ball. "It's too hot (long) nowadays. These top guys are driving past the natural and designed obstacles that make skill part of golf".

Following the banquet and award presentation, Marie Osmond and the Osmond Brothers entertained the audience with a blend of pop and country and western tunes.

The next GCSAA's International Golf Course Conference and Show will be held in Houston, Feb. 1-9, 1988.

### INVENTOR OF INNOVATIVE GREENS CONDITIONER HONOURED DURING GCSAA SHOW



A plaque picturing the Turf Groomer<sup>™</sup> and commemorating its inventor, her late husband Larry, was presented to Mrs. Barbara Lloyd by Jacobsen's President, John R. Dwyer, at a special ceremony in Phoenix.

An accomplished golf course superintendent, Larry Lloyd had identified a need for improvement in his greens, said Dwyer. "He turned this need into a concept for a product and then, through experimentation and hard work over a period of several years, he perfected the idea of the Turf Groomer<sup>™</sup> greens conditioner.

Jacobsen have the exclusive manufacturing rights to Lloyd's patented invention, with proceeds from the sale of each Turf Groomer<sup>TM</sup> going to the Lloyd estate. "It is only fitting and proper that a man's family should benefit from his hard work and ingenuity in creating such a revolutionary new product as the Turf Groomer<sup>TM</sup>", said John Dwyer.

# STOURBRIDGE GOLF CLUB Invite applications for the post of HEAD GREENKEEPER Applicants must be fully experienced in

all aspects of modern greenkeeping, machinery maintenance, staff supervision and turf management techniques

Salary Negotiable

Accommodation available

Please apply in writing giving age, course experience and qualifications to:-

> The Secretary, STOURBRIDGE GOLF CLUB, The Club House, Worcester Lane, Stourbridge, West Midlands DY8 2RB