

Editor — Ray Gerber
865 Hillside Ave.
Glen Ellyn, Ill. 60137
Phone — 469-6467

Associate Editors — Robert Williams
90 East Franklin, Apt. 208
Lake Forest, Ill. 60045
Office Phone — 432-0088

Roger LaRochelle
20432 Kedzie Ave.
Olympia Fields, Ill. 60461
Home Phone 481-1638



The President's Message

It seems that in the past few months, there has been an abundance of meetings and shows. Of course this is the time of year for people in the field of turf and related businesses to have some time free to attend these functions.

The show in Boston, was, I suspect, the biggest, the best, the most attended (I even brought my wife) etc. of all previous shows. An almost overwhelming collection of chemicals, fertilizers, equipment, and assorted hardware was shown. It seems everything is powered for every job, including a hole cutter. Of course you had two choices in this department — Hydraulic powered or driven by a rubber mallet! Through all this array of sophisticated gadgetry, I still could not find a wooden rake (my Members like them) that doesn't lose its teeth like hairs from my head, or a flag that won't tear and fade after a week's use, or a paper towel that cost 3 1/2¢ and looks like it!

There was one type of equipment that, to me, was conspicuous by its absence; that being safety equipment. With all we've heard OSHA, I would think our National Association would have made an effort to have some of these items shown. The items I refer to, are things such as safety boots, gloves, hard hats, face guards, breathing devices, spraying clothing, etc. I did see a few roll bars on tractors and a safety switch on one Triplex greens mower, but except for that, safety items were non-existent. It gave the impression that no one is worried about safety when we know that it is, and will be of major concern in years to come.

Before I close, I would like to take time to thank Mr. Mike Bavier and Mr. Ed Smith for presenting the Midwest's motion concerning the National's moving of its headquarters to Kansas at the GCSAA annual member's meeting. Although the motion was defeated, it paved the way for a motion from Ohio to present all other moves in the future to a membership vote. Again, thank you Men.

Denis Straus,
President

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The following is a list of office telephone numbers for the entire Board.

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Mike Bavier	358-7030
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