



Charles Baskin, President GCSAA, presents the Distinguished Service Award to Ray Gerber.

RAY GERBER SAYS THANK YOU

IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO THANK ALL OF YOU INDIVIDUALLY FOR YOUR KINDNESS AND SUPPORT FOR MAKING IT POSSIBLE FOR ME TO RECEIVE THE G.C.S.A.A. DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD. THE GREATEST TRIBUTE THE ASSOCIATION CAN BESTOW UPON AN INDIVIDUAL. I CERTAINLY AM PROUD OF THIS AWARD AND I WILL CHERISH IT AS LONG AS I LIVE.

I WOULD LIKE TO PASS ALONG A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS, ALSO THE CHICAGO-LAND GOLF SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION AND THE G.C.S.A.A. BOARD WHO HAD THE FINAL WORD, AND FINALLY, A VERY SPECIAL THANKS TO, ROBERT WILLIAMS, PAUL VOYKIN AND MIKE BAVIER, M.A. G.C.S. PRESIDENT, WHO MADE THE INVESTIGATION OF MY PAST FIFTY-EIGHT YEARS ON A GOLF COURSE.

I AM MORE THAN HAPPY TO BE ONE OF THE THREE WHO RECEIVED THIS DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD ALONG WITH DR. BILL DANIEL FROM PURDUE FOR HIS CONTRIBUTION THROUGH EDUCATION AND EXTENSION WORK. ALSO DR. FRED GRAU FOR HIS CONTRIBUTION THROUGH PROMOTION AND PARTICIPATION IN RESEARCH PROGRAMS IN THE U.S.G.A. AND THE U.S.D.A.

MOWER ADJUSTMENT AND SPEED

The Bull Sheet editor, being one of the older men in the golf course maintenance work, has decided to do a little investigating on what is happening in regards to mowing fairways and rough. Surely the precision work is more refined on a mower today than years ago. This does not make it more fool proof and this statement is being proven. Who is at fault if the bed knives get wavy and also the reel blades? The pride that the operator used to have in his work seems to be a lost art. The older men with years of experience in mowing are still getting by with very few problems. So the trouble must be due to the operator and also the man who adjusts the mowers. The reel blades and the bedknife should be adjusted so they just touch each other all the way across. One may call it zero, zero. The next step is the speed the

operator should travel. Will he reduce his speed when making a short turn? I doubt it, unless the person in charge make it a definite order and then checks occasionally to make sure his order is being adhered to.

Mowers used to cut sparse turfgrass should be very carefully adjusted. In occasions of this kind there is not enough grass leaves to keep the edges of the reel blades and bedknife lubricated. When this takes place, look out for trouble.

What are some of the other reasons that bed knives get wavy. One of them surely is the speed that the mower is traveling. Did you know that a tractor traveling five miles per hour, pulling a seven gang Toro fairway of Toro rough mowers with 14" wheels, and the operator makes a short turn so the inside mower is not moving forward and the speed not reduced, that the outside mower is traveling nine miles per hour and the R.P.M. of the reel is 1638. On a nine gang under the same circumstance the outside mower is traveling ten miles per hour and the reel has an R.P.M. of 1797.

Looking at it anyway you want to, this is too much speed and I am sure lawn mowers are not made to be operated in this manner.

Many times one notices tractor wheel impressions in the fairways, mostly near the outer edges. This can be overcome by straddling the wheel marks each day of the week. On one day of the week put the outside mower out of gear and raise the rear part of the mower.

The question many times is asked, why does the bedknife and reel blades get wavy on the mower behind the tractor wheels. The cause of this is usually due to the mower being adjusted too tight and the grass is pressed down by the wheel leaving no green grass to lubricate the bedknife and the reel blades.

How about making a resolution this spring; "no more injury to the bark of the young trees." A good resolution for the tractor operator.

To: Professional and Personal Friends
From: Oscar L. Miles, C.G.C.S.
Subject: My Position Change Notice
Dear Friends:

Beginning March 1, 1975, I am happy to report, I will be employed at a beautiful club in Indianapolis, Indiana, the Broadmoor Country Club, as the golf course and grounds superintendent. I have officially submitted my letter of resignation to the fine organization at Olympia, as of January 18, 1975.

May I take this opportunity to express my warmest best wishes and thanks to each friend and business associate I have had the pleasure of getting to know in the great golf and golf course management field. Your kindnesses and support has been very important to me and has contributed to my success.

Please consider this your invitation to visit us when you are in the "Hoosier" state. Our new club address is:

Broadmoor Country Club
2155 N. Kessler Blvd., W. Drive
Indianapolis, Indiana 46208

Good luck, God bless and may your fairways be forever green.

Cordially yours,
Oscar L. Miles
C.G.C.S.