

## EDITORIAL

As I approach my 6th season at Oak Hills I can't help but to look back over the years. With stark reality I find it hard to believe that I am rapidly approaching twenty years of very close association with golf courses and their business. During those years I feel fortunate to have witnessed many innovations and changes take place; some good and some not.

Most of us now active in golf course management have seen the advent of complex hydraulic machinery, new and better chemicals, superior varieties of turf grasses, the preponderance of automatic irrigation systems, and countless other changes. Having superintended the radical reconstruction of a beautiful, mature 18 hole golf course, I have personally experienced many of the changes. Oak Hills, as I knew it, has become a modern, 9 hole peripheral golf course of a planned 800-unit multi-family development, known presently as Oak Hills Country Club Village. I sincerely hope that this kind of progress is not a trend.

Most significantly, changes have occurred regarding our status as professionals over the past twenty years. For the most part we are more 'professional' and better recognized than ever before, but there is still definite room for improvement. We all, as golf course superintendents, must work daily to improve our images if we ever expect to achieve our desired levels of recognition and remuneration. It is all too easy to get caught up in the daily management routines and problems, and lose sight of our professional goals. We must, as individuals and as a group, constantly strive to better our profession through communication and involvement. Be involved with your clubs and associations. Attend association meetings and club functions if the opportunity arises. Participate! Communicate with your club members, club owners, or club employers. Get them involved with your business so they can better appreciate the many facets of your position. If we are ever to elude titles such as 'grass cutters' or 'greenskeepers' we must educate the public and private club patrons to the fact that we are professional golf course superintendents.

Many superintendents in the Chicago area and throughout the country have attained these levels of recognition and compensation, but the vast majority of us must continue toward this goal. There are two thoughts that may help us achieve our well deserved status of professionalism in this business of managing golf courses. Webster defines a superintendent "as one who has executive oversight and charge". The other thought, if I may borrow it from a colleague, is that the golf course is the preeminent part of any golf club be it private, public, or otherwise. With foresight-not hindsight-let us keep these thoughts in mind.

**Donald A. Hoffman, Supt.**  
**Oak Hills Country Club Village**

### **Nels J. Johnson, Tree Experts, Inc.**

**SINCE 1930**

Complete, economical tree service for Private Estates, Parks, Municipalities, Golf Courses, Cemeteries, Schools, Industrial Areas.

All phases of Arboriculture, Diagnosing, Pruning, Treating, Transplanting, Fertilization, Hydraulic and Mist Spraying, Removals, Stump, Routing, Municipal Forestry.

—FULLY INSURED—

Licensed under the Illinois tree expert act. Nels J. Johnson, Sr., Joel Johnson, Jr., and Karl Johnson.

MAIN OFFICE: 912 Pitner Avenue, Evanston, Illinois  
Phones: GR 5-1877 — GR 5-5255  
Hinsdale, Illinois — FA 5-0970

## **C. E. DAUGHERTY CO.**

**1855 W. Stuart Ln.**

**Palatine, Illinois 60067**

**(312) 359-0602**

### **Representing:**

**MITTS & MERRILL** — Brush and Limb  
Chipper

**AQUASHADE INC.** — Pond Beautifier

**COURSIGNS INC.** — Golf Course Signs -  
Trap Rakes - Litter  
Receptacles

**CARRON NET CO. INC.** — Tennis Nets -  
Wind Screens  
- Dividers -  
Straps &  
Tapes

**POLLARD BROS.** — Work Benches -  
Cabinets, Barrell  
Stands

**LOFT-KELLOGG** — Grass Seeds

**GRASS-CEL** — Paving Blocks

## **BROOKSIDE SOIL TESTING and IRRIGATION WATER ANALYSIS**

includes complete report, and recommendations for producing quality turf on golf courses.

### **ADVANTAGES:**

- Improve the environment of the grasses and eliminate turf diseases
- Decrease the money spent on pesticides
- Reduce thatch and eliminate fairway renovation
- Less money needed for high cost fertilizer
- Healthy turf attracts more golfers and increases income

Contact:

**V. J. Zolman**  
**2618 Harvey Avenue**  
**Berwyn, Illinois 60402**

Phone: (312) - 788-4565