

Director's Column



by Joel Purpur, River Forest C.C.

With the 1989 season upon us, on come the yearly tasks of aerating, weed killing, and the list goes on. Most of them are necessary evils we must do to maintain quality turf. Hopefully we also get chances now and then to use our creative skills on other projects as well.

With plans to rebuild the planter boxes and install a second stairway to our first tee, we decided to use vertical timbers inspired by the flowing curves seen on the Flex Timber system at the national trade show. In an attempt to solve the problem of concentrated foot traffic with stairways, we flaired the top steps making them wider at the tee surface.

6" x 6" treated timbers were used for the steps and rounded 4" x 6" timbers, also treated, were used for the verticals. An 18" trench was dug to the wall outline and postholes an additional 18" deep every two feet provide good stability. Each board was nailed to the next with 5/16" spikes. (we used over 300 lbs. of spikes). Masking tape was used to outline the final cut on the standing vertical (4" x 6" timbers) which gives visualization and is easily changed. Rubber matting will be used on the steps to avoid wear from spikes.

There are many construction methods and endless designs to choose from to give each their individual character. Jesse Felix, with "The Growing Place", is designing the planting for the finishing touch. Landscape projects can be the fun part of our job and break up routine maintenance as well.

