



Dudley and wife Marlene.

GCSAA Recognizes Dudley Smith For Distinguished Service

The news flash first came to MAGCS membership on November 6, 2002 at the 50th Annual Midwest Turf Clinic: Dudley Smith—longtime golf course superintendent at Silver Lake Country Club and past president of the Midwest in 1967—would receive the GCSAA’s Distinguished Service Award for 2003.

A Midwest member last earned this distinction three years ago, in 2000, when Michael Bavier, CGCS of Inverness Country Club was recognized for exceptional service. The following are excerpts from the GCSAA’s official news release on the 2003 Distinguished Service Awards. In the meantime, congratulations, Dudley! We’ll be there in Atlanta to cheer you on!

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) has selected Robert D. Emmons, Joel D. Jackson, CGCS and Dudley H. Smith as recipients of the association’s Distinguished Service Award. Each will be acknowledged at the Opening Session of GCSAA’s 74th International Golf Course Conference and Show, February 12, 2003 in Atlanta.

The GCSAA Board of Directors, from nominations by affiliated chapters and/or association members, selects Distinguished Service Award winners. First presented in 1932, the award is given to individuals who have made an outstanding, substantive and enduring contribution to the advancement of the golf course superintendent profession.

“GCSAA succeeds because of the dedication and hard work of its members, educators and industry supporters. The association is proud to honor Bob Emmons, Joel Jackson and Dudley Smith with GCSAA’s Distinguished Service Award,” said GCSAA president Michael Wallace, CGCS. “Their contributions to the game of golf and to the advancement of the golf course superintendent profession certainly merit this award.”

Dudley H. Smith, retired golf course superintendent and former president of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents (MAGCS) and the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation, has been a longtime superintendent and a powerful, positive influence in the Chicago area. Smith served as superintendent at Silver Lake Country Club in metropolitan Chicago for more than 40 years, which made him the senior practicing superintendent in the area. His active role in the golf course management industry has been evident in his service to the Musser Foundation, which provides scholarships to doctoral candidates in the turfgrass field, and in his founding of the Charles Bartlett Award, which recognizes high levels of service excellence in the MAGCS.

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Dudley in 1964.

Robert D. Emmons, a professor in the Plant Science Department at the State University of New York (SUNY) Agricultural and Technical College at Cobleskill, is a former golf course superintendent. He plays an influential role in the education and development of future and current golf course superintendents. He has received a Citation of Merit from the New York State Turfgrass Association and a Certificate of Merit from the USDA. Because of his personal, one-on-one approach to mentoring at SUNY Cobleskill, Emmons' students are highly sought after in the marketplace. In 1985, Emmons created and taught the first Integrated Pest Management (IPM) course in the northeast United States. Also in 1985, he published a textbook entitled *Turfgrass Science Management*. The textbook has become a leading resource in turfgrass education. Emmons also has influenced current superintendents by having presented more than 200 lectures at conferences throughout the Northeast.

Joel D. Jackson, CGCS, director of communications for the Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association (GCSA), editor of *The Florida Green* magazine and retired golf course superintendent, has been a powerful voice for golf course superintendents in the Florida area and across the country. Jackson joined the staff of the Florida GCSA in 1998 after a long and distinguished career as a golf course superintendent. Under his direction as *The Florida Green* editor and director of communications at the Florida GCSA, the publication has received top honors in the annual GCSAA Publications Contest for 11 consecutive years. On a monthly basis, Jackson provides stirring editorial contributions to *The Florida Green* and *Golfdom* magazines. Jackson also has been an active and longtime member of GCSAA's Publications Committee. Additionally, he currently serves on GCSAA's Government Relations Committee, and in the past, he has been a member of GCSAA's Conference and Show Committee and the former Communications Focus Group.



Dudley and Marlene.



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