

TECHNICALLY
SPEAKING WITH 
Ted Soenksen, Wilmette Golf Club



TETA Members attend the EETC Conference

The Annual Equipment and Engine Training Council (EETC) Conference was held in Kohler, Wisconsin, and was hosted by the Kohler Company (imagine that) earlier this year. I was very fortunate to attend this year's event along with Wes Daneilewicz (TETA Executive Director) and Donald Briggs (TETA Vice President). It was great to see outdoor power equipment of all types from so many different manufacturers. Many of the companies send their top personnel to show their support, to offer ideas, and to relay any concerns of the attendees back to the drawing boards. Many distributors of equipment are also in attendance. A major part of their goal is to find the best up-to-date methods for training their equipment technicians, and to maintain a viable testing program for the OPE (Outdoor Power Equipment) Industry. Educators from institutions around the country bring their needs and concerns to the various committee discussions. Although, the universities and technical colleges that have equipment training courses continue to face the struggle to gain students as their number one problem.

TETA has been on the turf education committee of the EETC since the first round table discussion for the "Reel Technology Certification Test" back in the late '90s. Since its inception, the test has been reviewed annually. The second complete edition of the test has been in use since last winter. A study guide that accompanies the test has been completed and will be available later this year. Information on this test and other certification tests can be found online through the TETA website. (tetaonline.org).

TETA is gearing up for another educational season starting in October. Topics that will be covered this fall and winter include: golf cars, utility vehicles, welding fabrication, electronic diagnosis, alternative fuels, and computer use and training for the shop. If you are interested in hosting a seminar at your workplace, contact your TETA board. Everyone benefits when the members of TETA are exposed to other shops in the area.

I hope you have been able to enjoy your summer to this point. Labor Day is just around the corner and aerification is just beyond that. Keep 'em straight and true. **-OC**



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