

## OFF COURSE

Rusty Stachlewitz, Associate Editor



Do you want to learn more about how to keep your facility in the best possible condition? You are reading the wrong section of the magazine. The things contained below could possibly, inadvertently help you be a better employer and person but they won't help out your green thumb. Heck, some of the things below may actually make you a little dumber just for having learned about them.

Do you have that one person on your staff that is just a pain in the rear? Maybe there is someone else that you can't stand to be around? Well there is help. "*The No A#\*hole Rule: Building a Civilized Workplace and Surviving One That Isn't*" by Robert I. Sutton, PhD and published by Warner Business Books is here as your guide. Now, upfront it should be said that the author advocates removal of the offender as the best course of action but understands that is not always possible. Sometimes that isn't within your power but more and more commonly there are too many people that would fall into that group which would leave you doing all the work. The book gives you tools to use to

work with difficult or demeaning people. The author is a Stanford University, Professor of Management Science, which gives him some credibility. The book is an easy read that is fun and informative. The book actually outlines a way to quantify the cost of counter-productive staff members. This is something we all could use. Maybe you don't think this book is for you because you can't think of an unsavory person on your staff. You may want to pick it up and take the self test to see if you are the A#\*hole in the organization. Don't worry the author offers ways to improve yourself as well.

Something to Note as *Off Course* evolves: *Off Course* is not only many peoples least favorite part of this magazine it was one of Japan's most influential rock bands. It was formed in early 1969 by Kazumasa Oda (????). They broke up in 1989 after their February 26 farewell performance at Tokyo Dome.

One of their most famous songs is YES-YES-YES.-OC

### A Day in the Life of...

Its 3:30 in the morning when the alarm awakens you, still  
Dark out from the night.  
It's a 40 minute ride thru small towns, quiet, peaceful.  
It's the most peaceful time of your day, to plan what is ahead of you.  
You drive up to your shop, first one there, as the sun starts to peak out  
Over number five you get a clear view of that beautiful piece of land that you planted and watched over.  
It's your baby and you nurture it.  
You take in one more big breath before heading inside to start your day.  
You hope you can get a cup of coffee in before your crew arrives.  
Now you begin to cram 18 hours of work into a 10-hour day.  
The long summer days seem to never end. No days off, no vacations, no  
time to think about watching anything else except if the course looks 110% and what can I do to improve it?  
It's 6:00 pm by the time you make that 40-minute drive back home (not as quiet as the morning commute).  
Time for dinner, maybe some playtime with your grandson and then to bed.  
You don't complain because this is what you do,  
This is not just a job, this is your life, your passion, your vision.  
This is a day in the life of my husband, and I could not be more proud of him.  
I know winter is around the corner and that is our time together.

Judy Lovero