

Westmoreland Country Club turf equipment technician Al Bitterman shows off his racing lawnmower, which powered him to national runner-up in the U.S. Lawnmower Racing Association's season-ending points race.



## Westmoreland's Bitterman Gets Honors

ROCKFORD, Ill. — Al Bitterman of Lake Zurich, Ill., a turf equipment technician at Westmoreland Country Club in Wilmette, Ill., finished the season in second place in points after the running of the Sta-Bil Nationals, a championship race for riding lawn mowers held at the Rockford Metrocentre here.

Bob Cleveland of Locust

Grove, Ga., a designer for Snapper, won the championship race to lock up first place in the national points race. The field of 14 lawn mowers reached speeds exceeding 45 miles per hour. The races are sponsored by the Gold Eagle Co., makers of Sta-Bil Fuel Stabilizer, with proceeds benefiting the Les Turner ALS Foundation for Lou Gehrig's Disease.

MAINTENANCE

## ARKANSAS TURF SHOW IN JAN.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — The Arkansas Turfgrass Association will host its 11th Annual Conference and Trade Show, Jan. 11-12, here at the Arkansas Statehouse Convention Center and the Arkansas' Excelsior Hotel. Contact Angie McSwain at 501-664-8048, or write to Arkansas Turfgrass Association, P.O. Box 250270, Little Rock, Ark. 72225-0270.

## Jones leaves

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fessional.

"He is always willing to share his time and help others. Whether personal or business, he was there. He's a mentor to a lot of people, including me."

Jones, who earned certified golf course superintendent status despite never attending a university turf school, is well-known nationally for taking the Florida GCSA's Florida Green magazine from a four-page issue in 1976 to a perennial national award-winner when he left as editor in 1990. Working with wife Irene, his last issue of the quarterly publication was a 96-pager.

Jones began his career as superintendent at Fountain Valley Golf Course (now Carambola Bay) in St. Croix, Virgin Islands. He worked there for the Rockresorts, Inc.-owned facility for five years, then worked for Rockresorts in Puerto Rico. There, he oversaw two golf courses at Dorado Beach Hotel, and was owner's representative in building two 18-hole courses at Cerromar Beach Hotel. He was director of facilities maintenance, in charge of the golf courses, hotels and grounds, from 1970-75.

"It was like being a city manager," he said. "I had 210 employees. We operated all the grounds and hotel maintenance had 210 employees. The facility had its own sewage plant and miles of roads."

After five years in Puerto Rico, Jones took a position at Turnberry Isles in Miami Beach, where he remained another five years until joining Banyon Golf Club.

He has served on advisory boards at Broward Community College in Ft. Lauderdale and Lake City Community College in Florida.

His new job?

"Now I get around to see golf courses and superintendents — hold their hand," he laughed. "Hopefully in 33 years I have gained some insight. I'll sell fertilizer, but mainly I'm there to help them, and I'll do whatever I can do make their jobs easier."

Jones is working out of his home at 8346 7th Place South, West Palm Beach, Fla. 33411; telephone 561-793-2497.

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