



Feeling appreciated

I thank Margaret Hepp for the well-written article, "Reel sharp," in the September issue on page 58. I thoroughly enjoyed reading it. I have to admit it's pretty cool seeing my name in print. She has given me something to feel good about in a job in which I sometimes feel less than appreciated. It feels good to be recognized, and I thank her for that.

Jim Swartzel
Equipment manager
The Hasentree Club
Wake Forest, N.C.

Association participation

I thank Pat Jones for writing about an interesting topic that needs to be discussed frequently: how to promote more quality participation within the turfgrass association arena ("Chapter and verse," golfcourseindustry.com/news/news.asp?ID=4145). Our association, the Northern Great Lakes GCSA struggles with this issue. Even within the ranks of volunteers, participation varies from completely involved to just holding a seat on the board.

As president of the association, I've become dismayed at the lack of interest and effort on the part of many of our members. Sometimes it seems the popular attitude is "What are you doing for me lately?" If members don't like what's on the agenda, they don't attend. At many of our gatherings – about five a year – almost half of those attending are vendors.

Michigan just had four or five regional chapters merge into one. This was an attractive option to some groups who were battling apathy. I'm trying to resist this trend because it seems impersonal and less autonomous.

Glen Rochester
President
Northern Great Lakes GCSA
Marquette, Mich.

Correction

Distributor sales of Bayer's nematicide, Nematicur, will cease after Nov. 30. We published the previous deadline in September issue's cover story, "A heavy head," on page 31.

CALENDAR

Dec. 1 - 3
WASHINGTON TURF & LANDSCAPE SHOW

Meydenbauer
Convention Center
Bellevue, Wash.
Visit www.wwgcsa.org/wtfs,
or call 360-705-3049.

Dec. 8 - 11
OHIO TURFGRASS CONFERENCE & SHOW

Greater Columbus
Convention Center
Visit www.ohioturfgrass.org,
or call 888-863-3445.

Dec. 9 - 11
NEW JERSEY GREEN EXPO

Taj Mahal Resort
Atlantic City, N.J.
Visit www.njturfgrass.org,
or call 973-812-6467.

Jan. 6 - 9, 2009
EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA TURF CONFERENCE AND SHOW

Valley Forge Convention Plaza
King of Prussia, Pa.
Visit www.paturf.org,
or call 877-326-5996.

Jan. 7 - 9
EMPIRE STATE GREEN INDUSTRY SHOW

Rochester (N.Y.) Riverside
Convention Center
Visit www.nysta.org,
or call 800-873-8873.

Jan. 7 - 9
MINNESOTA GREEN EXPO

Minneapolis
Convention Center
Visit www.minnesotagreenexpo.com,
or call 651-633-4987.

Feb. 2 - 7, 2009
GCSAA EDUCATION CONFERENCE

New Orleans Morial
Convention Center
Visit www.gcsaa.org/conference,
or call 800-472-7878.

Feb. 3 - 7, 2009
NGCOA'S ANNUAL CONFERENCE

New Orleans Morial
Convention Center
Visit www.ngcoa.org/ac08,
or call 843-881-9956.

Feb. 5 - 10, 2009
CLUB MANAGERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA'S WORLD CONFERENCE ON CLUB MANAGEMENT

New Orleans Morial
Convention Center
Visit www.cmaa.org/conf, or call
703-739-9500.

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