

real hard questions raised in the next few years."

Curt's involvement with the turf industry doesn't stop with his business. He's been a director for the Wisconsin Turfgrass Association for a number of years. "It's been interesting to watch the change in the industry and, of course, the advent of the O.J. Noer Turfgrass Research and Education Facility. I was with that from Day 1 of the development," he pointed out.

"What do you think of it now that it's complete?" I asked.

"It is going to be a first-rate education and research station," he replied.

"And how does that help or affect your business?"

"Instead of having to go out of state to find some answers to questions about seed, chemical or fertilizer evaluation, we can have those questions answered in our immediate area. These products may work differently in Wisconsin than in some other state," he explained. "Now we'll be able to watch those plots as they grow and mature and generate information for years and years and years. I think that's the biggest single benefit.

"And the Noer Center will help bring in and keep professors at the University of Wisconsin," he added.

"It just brings everything into a complete circle," he continued. "By itself, the Noer Center is one outstanding item. But, put into the complete circle of the turf industry—whether it be for golf courses, sod growers or distributors like us—it benefits all the people because of the information we can gather."

Like many who work in the turf industry, Curt's hobbies revolve around grass, too. Golfing is a favorite activity. "I try to get out once a week," he said. "I don't play very well, but I love to play."

With his work taking him to many golf courses, he likes playing a variety of courses rather than belonging to one local club. But, diplomat that he is, he wouldn't name a favorite course. "I think I've played just about every golf course in our part of the state," he pointed out. "They all offer unique and separate challenges. There are so many fine golf courses. I enjoy playing them all."

"Because of your line of business, do you see courses differently than an ordinary player?" I asked.

"That happens. But when I play, I

like to put that aside and just make it a fun afternoon. I try not to get too wrapped up in what I might see or what I might not see. I try to be just a golf course customer on that afternoon."

Curt also enjoys working in his yard. "I love to work on my lawn," he said. "We have a nice lawn and I like to keep it in good shape. Maybe some of that rubs off because of the well-manicured golf courses I see."

---

## SYMPOSIUM TO MOVE

by Rod Johnson

---

Plans are well under way for the 27th Wisconsin Golf Turf Symposium. This year's event will be held on the traditional Tuesday and Wednesday, October 27th and 28th.

The annual event will continue its "Downtown Milwaukee" tradition but in a break from the norm we will be meeting at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. The Symposium Committee is excited by the potential of the move and hopes that regular attendees will share the enthusiasm. We have been assured by the Hyatt the highest quality facilities and services.

The topic chosen to be covered in depth is *Greens Site Construction and/or Renovation*. An outstanding group of speakers has already committed to share their expertise with our group. Dr. Norman Hummel Jr., Cornell University, will give news and views on USGA specifications. Bob Vavrek, USGA Agronomist, will discuss methods of greens construction being used today. Lee Bruce, owner of The Bruce Company, will offer his insights into greenscaping.

Brian Silva, Golf Course Architect, and always a trend setter, will speak twice to the group. His topics will include greens restoration, bunker renovation, and tee construction. Don Sweda, Golf Course Superintendent at Beechmont C.C. in Cleveland, Ohio will relate his experiences in re-grassing greens. John Huber, Huber Sod Ranch, will discuss the industry trend towards using washed sod in construction.

The always popular panel discussion will have two well known superintendents debating the merits and

Curt and his wife, Mary, have four grown children. Brian is service manager at Wisconsin Turf. Bruce is a professor of agricultural economics with the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Washington, D.C. Barry, who formerly worked at Wisconsin Turf, now works for Medalist America seed. And daughter Andrea just graduated from college with a degree in elementary education.

drawbacks of "in-house" vs. "out house" construction.

Keynote and luncheon speakers will be announced at a later date. The list of "possibles yet to confirm" is outstanding. Our own Jim Latham, USGA Great Lakes Region Director will again, as only he can do, summarize the Symposium.

Feel free to contact any Symposium committee member with any questions or concerns that you might have. Committee members are Bob Belfield, Rod Johnson, Jim Latham, Al Nees, Wayne Otto, Terry Ward, Bob Vavrek, and Bruce Worzella.

### PENDELTON TURF SUPPLY

Ed Witkowski

- Chemicals
- Full Line of Turf Products
- Competitive Pricing
- New Product Information

*Satisfaction  
Guaranteed*

**414-421-6474**

9305 Oak Creek Ct.  
Franklin, WI 53132