



WORKING TOGETHER

By **Kris Pinkerton**, Golfcourse Superintendent, Oshkosh Country Club

Welcome to the new millennium! The day has finally come when I must prepare my first president's message. Hopefully, cross your fingers, the Y2K bug won't have eaten any of our computers.

The first order of business for me is to offer a sincere "thank you" to everyone for the opportunity to serve as president of this great organization. The opportunity to serve as president of the WGCSA is very important to me, just as I am sure it was for the thirty-four superintendents before me. It is also appropriate that I thank Scott Schaller for his leadership over the last two years. I suspect that most know little about the time and effort involved in running our association. Thank you Scott! Also, I would like a few moments to say thanks to a trio of departing board members. Mark Kienert, Dave Smith and Andy Kronwall have departed the board after donating so much time and effort to advance our association.

The new year, and for that matter the new millennium, promises numerous challenges for our turfgrass profession. And to lead the way, the newly elected board members, **working together** with the support of our membership, will help superintendents meet those challenges.

Turfgrass Industry Survey

Last March at our spring business meeting, the membership overwhelmingly approved financial support in the amount of \$10,000 for the Turfgrass Industry Survey. The commitment required funding of \$5,000 in 1999 and \$5,000 in the year 2000. Spear-headed by Dr. John Stier, an oversight committee was formed and has been meeting



on a regular basis this past year.

Volunteering to serve on the oversight committee, on behalf of the Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Association, has given me great pride. As you know, the survey is a task which many in the turfgrass industry desire. With a great survey it will increase our political strength at the state legislative and university administrative levels. This could be expected to translate into increased economic opportunities for the turf industry plus extension, teaching and research programs.

The committee is now at a point of reviewing the draft questionnaires. Shortly, every golf course in the State of Wisconsin will be receiving the Turfgrass Survey which will be addressed to the Superintendent or Owner/Operator. **I ask each and every superintendent to please**

take time to complete this very important survey. This could be the single most important thing you do for the turfgrass industry this decade. Bob Battaglia, state statistician assigned to this project, has assured us that all information will be kept confidential. You will find the confidentially statement on your survey.

Surveys to the homeowners will begin in Spring as this is when they are usually thinking about their lawns. Data collection and analyzing by Ag Statistics Service will continue through summer. By spring of 2001, the oversight committee hopes to have the survey published and released.

Thank you in advance for assisting with this greatly needed task.

May God bless you and your families in the New Year! 🌿

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