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### 1989 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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# SPORTS TURF

## NEWSLETTER



## Seasons Greetings



### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This is my last message to you, the members, as I relinquish my position as President after 2½ exciting years. It is quite a challenge starting an organization versus joining one.

Historically speaking, we produced a newsletter which has been widely distributed. Our first issue was produced in the Autumn of 1987. Using information obtained from a questionnaire, we are compiling statistics on the amount of sports turf maintained and what maintenance practices are used. We need to find a method of doing this job more quickly! We see a need for an executive secretary to not only handle the administrative workload but also to give the Association some continuity plus headquarters to work from.

There are many challenges for the 1990's. The idea started by CGSA's Bob Brewster of getting groups with similar interests to consolidate their conferences is a good one and one we have benefited from. As Cindy Code, editor of Lawn and Landscape Magazine says, "Consolidation is not only natural but necessary. Attendees would be able to preview a much wider variety of products, attend a medley of educational sessions and share experiences with a wider range of their peers."

Not many organizations will ever have the means to install or even think about artificial turf for their programs. The challenge is to get to them and help them provide better and safer natural grass. There is a need to learn more about sand based fields and their water and nutrient requirements. We need to look at the use of more trickle type irrigation systems to cut our labour costs and put the

water where it is needed. Provincial chapters of the S.T.A. are a definite possibility and needed to address local needs and problems.

I have been well pleased with the dedication and commitment of our founding Board Members. Their work, time and effort is much appreciated and I have enjoyed our work together.

To Uwe Semhrau of the Ministry of Tourism and Recreation my thanks for his considerable help since our beginnings, in both an advisory and monetary role.

Last but my no means least to Annette Anderson who has not only provided us with advice at our meetings but also helped by obtaining quality speakers for our field days and conferences. Her assistance has been invaluable.

In closing I leave you with the words of Dr. Fumio Kitamura the organizing chairman of the Sixth International Turfgrass Research Conference. He said, "Today the more civilized and peaceful a country is, the more (formal) turf is used. When our lives become more comfortable, the importance of grass increases as a place where we can get close to it, enjoy it, play and relax on it. Turf is now a symbol of civilization, peace and affluence."

I look forward to the 90's as your past president.

Yours for better, safer sports turf

Sincerely,

**Michael J. Bladon**

### WELCOME! TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

**Cliff Turner**

Orillia Parks & Recreation

**Don Harrison**

Town of Bradford

**Bill Thompson**

Muskoka Board of Education

**John Bilz**

Muskoka Board of Education

**Ms. Kim Knight**

The City of Fort McMurray

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