



The President's Desk

JANE ARNETT-RIVERS

It's hard to imagine that September is half way past – this has certainly been a fast paced summer. And that elusive burn off I wrote of in the last news letter? Oakville hasn't seen it. In seasons past, the challenge has been keeping the turf healthy and strong during the drought periods in July and August. This year it has been keeping the surfaces playable after the heavy rains we have received. There are a lot of products on the market designed for just that – moderating moisture levels. More than in past summers, we have had field closures, especially ball fields, due to rain. The surfaces on which the amendments were applied have remained playable. I suggest you look into them, the financial investment this year has definitely paid off.

Congratulations to Mike Bladon on his Honourary Life Membership. If you have attended a symposium or Field Day over the years, you have run across Mike. A founding member of this Association, Mike has made a career of giving our industry professionalism and respectability. His interest in safety above all has been the corner stone of the Sports Turf Association. He is currently the editor of the *Sports Turf Manager*, a position we are so fortunate to have him occupy. I am happy to be on the Board which honours him rightfully. Cheers, Mike, we all look forward to many more years of your input and guidance.

Mentioning the Ontario Turfgrass Symposium, do you have your team together for the Jeopardy challenge? Last year's session was very entertaining, so don't miss out. Please call either Lee Huether at 519-763-9431 or myself at 905-847-9181. Team Oakville has agreed to step back up to the plate and try to retain the trophy. Be sure when picking your team to spread out the expertise – questions

range from sharpening bed knives to pest controls to construction.

When you register for the Symposium, don't forget to tick the Sports Turf Association Box on the form so your support is credited to us.

Something new for the Association is an educational day we are putting together with the Ontario Recreational Facilities Association, scheduled for October in the Township of East Gwillimbury. Watch for details. Topics for discussion include risk management, putting your fields to bed for the winter and getting a head start in spring, constructing the sports field, drainage and irrigation, and the basics of sports turf management. This new partnership with ORFA is very exciting and we look forward to more information sharing with their Association. ♦

STA New Members

Welcome to the STA

Frank Pandullo

Peter Pan Landscaping Ltd.
Mississauga, ON

Don Lobb

Don Lobb & Associates
Terra Cotta, ON

Darin Ayres

Facility Manager
Syl Apps Arena, Paris, ON

Jeff Stewart

Manager of Parks & Environmental
Services, Town of Ajax, ON

Robin Langille

Facility Manager
Township of North Dundas, ON



Ontario Turfgrass Symposium

Education & Trade Show

January 3-5, 2001, Toronto, ON

Support your association and save money too!

Early bird registration date: November 20!

When registering for the OTS, be sure to indicate you are a member of the Sports Turf Association, a sponsoring association of the symposium. On your registration form please Sports Turf Association to ensure your membership credit is directed to us!

Save more money on the registration fees of others from your facility/organization who are not members of the STA. Non-members registered **at the same time** as a member qualify for the same lower association rates. Send the registration in the same envelope, fax it at the same time, or make just one phone call to register.