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**SPORTS TURF ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO**  
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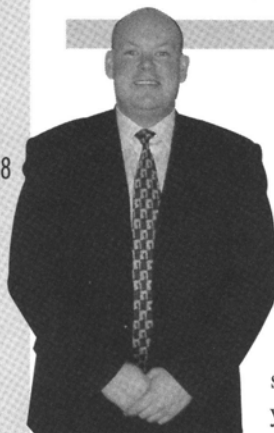
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**STA OFFICE HOURS**

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# The President's Desk

PAUL TURNER



## Gearing down...

Hello to all our members! Can someone please tell me where the summer went? It seems like just yesterday that we were gearing up for spring and now we are gearing down for the fall season. Autumn is a great time of year. In my mind, the grass never looks better and there isn't a finer time to spend a day on the links than when the trees are turning colour.

**16<sup>th</sup> Annual Field Day**

Well, we did it again. This year's field day at the University of Toronto @ Scarborough was our best yet! Attendance was the highest ever with over 105 turf professionals registered. We also had a great turn out from our suppliers with 16 companies exhibiting their products.

Without the support of our generous sponsors the day wouldn't be possible. Our thanks to each and every one of you.

We must also express our appreciation to our speakers. Rob McMulkin helped us out when we were in a bit of a bind when Larry Noon was unable to attend. Rob, thanks for stepping in at the last minute and starting off a great morning.

Our second speaker was Dave Motley and I thought he made a tremendous presentation with some amazing statistics. Dave, thanks from the committee.

Gary Supp from Turf Care was the final morning speaker. Unfortunately for Gary, we had some technical difficulties so the full effect of his PowerPoint presentation was not felt but it was an enlightening session, packed with great material.

The last speaker of the day was the colourful Jack Eggens. Jack entertained the large crowd on the field with some hands-on tips regarding turf maintenance and cultural practices. Thanks to all of our speakers for sharing their time and

expertise with us.

I would also like to thank the Field Day Committee and, of course, Lee Huether for doing an outstanding job with the planning and organization of the event.

**We Were There!**

The STA had representation in Stratford at the Communities in Bloom National Symposium on Parks and Grounds thanks to STA Directors Rick Lane and Jane Arnett-Rivers who were invited speakers.

**Ontario Turfgrass Symposium**

We have some new and exciting information regarding the OTS. In 2004, we are off to the Falls. Yes, that's correct, the new show location is Niagara Falls at the Sheraton on the Falls Hotel and Conference Centre, January 19-21st. This promises to be a great new location for the event. The Falls area has lots of entertainment, restaurants and, of course, one of Ontario's finest casinos.

We welcome a new partner this year. The Ontario Recreation Facilities Association joins the Guelph Turfgrass Institute, the Nursery Sod Growers Association of Ontario, the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food, the Professional Lawn Care Association of Ontario, the Sports Turf Association and the University of Guelph in providing the most comprehensive turf show in the province. So come on out and let's have a great time! See you there.

The STA Annual General Meeting is being held during the symposium on the morning of January 21<sup>st</sup> from 7.30 to 9.00 a.m. Please come and join us for breakfast.

Nominations for the Board of Directors will also be held at the AGM. If you would like to get involved, please come and participate. The Slate of Nominees and the Invitation to the Annual General Meeting will be mailed soon so keep an eye out for this correspondence. Best wishes for the autumn season. ♦