

WRAPPING UP OTS 2006

HELD AT THE UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH • FEBRUARY 20 & 21



Above: On behalf of the STA, appreciation is expressed to Director David Smith (right), who is stepping down at the completion of his term, by President Gord Dol.

members include Dave Chapman, City of Toronto; Bob Kennedy, Sport Turf Management Solutions; Grant Mckeich, Town of East Gwillimbury; and Gregory Snaith, EnviroIrrigation Engineering.

Board members with one year left in their term include Rick Lane, Haldimand County; Bob Sheard; Brian Adriaans, City of Burlington; Cam Beneteau, Ridley College; Roy Forfar, York Region District School Board; and Paul Gillen, Holland Equipment Ltd. David Smith has stepped down as a board member. Dave, your hard work and dedication to the STA board will be missed. At the AGM, Andrew Gaydon and David Smith were presented with a plaque as a token of our appreciation for all their hard work.

Membership invoices will soon be mailed. Your prompt attention to this is greatly appreciated. For your convenience, we now accept most major credit cards.

Plans for our 19th Annual Field Day are now well under way. It will be held at Ridley College in St. Catherine's on September 21, 2006. Stay tuned for more details as this promises to be another great one. Thank you to Mr. Cam Beneteau and Ridley College for hosting this event.

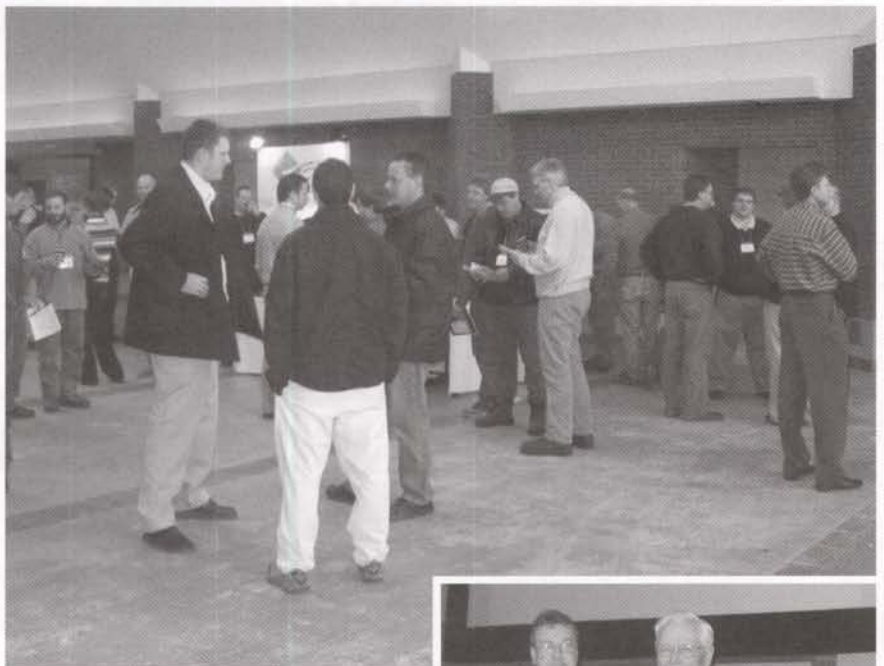
Finally, I look forward with great enthusiasm to working with this exciting group of individuals for my term as president. I have been on the board since 1995 and have thoroughly enjoyed the experience and meeting so many great people over the years. ♦

The Ontario Turfgrass Symposium's (OTS), *Strengthening Our Roots: A Growing Tradition*, attracted over 600 participants to this year's show, acknowledging the outstanding contribution the Symposium makes to the Canadian turf industry through education, research and training.

In 2006, OTS celebrated its 15th anniversary of turf management education and leadership at the University of Guelph's newest complex – Rozanski Hall. Delegates, speakers and sponsors alike were impressed with this leading-edge facility consisting of modern classrooms with state of the art presentation capabilities.

Seminars featured the latest in scientific research and practice concerning tools for integrated pest management, potash and phosphorus, alternative controls, regulatory issues, artificial turf and customer service. In addition, programming focused on further enhancing the existing golf, lawn care, sod production and sports turf management sessions.

Proud sponsors of the symposium are the Guelph Turfgrass Institute, Sports Turf Association, Nursery Sod Growers Association, Ontario Recreation Facilities Association, Professional Lawn Care Association of Ontario, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food and Rural Affairs, and the Office of Open Learning at the University of Guelph.



Above: Delegates mingle at OTS 2006.

Right: Chris Mark (left), OTS Committee Chair, pays tribute to STA Director Bob Sheard, who served on the OTS organizing committee since its inception until his retirement in 2006. Along with Annette Anderson, Bob was the driving force behind producing this annual premier educational conference. At this year's OTS, Bob stated that education, particularly outside the normal classroom is the secret to advancement.

