

SPORTS TURF MANAGER

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Please include the vital information of name, telephone number with area code, and time of calling. The office may be reached at any time by faxing (519) 766-1704 or via e-mail.

The President's Desk – Gord Dol

Spring is here, and it's time to get back to the business of sports turf management. On a personal note, I'm proud to be serving as your president for another term.

This year's Ontario Turfgrass Symposium was again a great success with a terrific venue and a first class slate of speakers. The OTS is, and continues to be, the premier turf education forum on Ontario. Many thanks to the OTS committee for another job well done. We have three *OTS Highlights* articles in this issue.

During the symposium, we also held our Annual General Meeting at which elections for board positions were conducted. I would like to extend a very special thank-you to Dr. Bob Sheard who has stepped down from the board after many years of faithful service. All directors slated to complete their second year were re-elected and I am pleased to sit as president for another two years. Congratulations to Paul Gillen, now our vice-president.

Also at our AGM, we announced the creation of the Michael J. Bladon Educational Link. This link, available to our members via the association's website, will take you to the Michigan State University's Turfgrass Information File where you can access virtually any type of turf

The eagerly awaited *Athletic Field Construction Manual* is hot off the press and ready for distribution.

related information. This announcement was made with Michael's lovely wife Elaine and son John present, and is a tribute to Mike's many years of invaluable service to the STA.

I am pleased to announce that the *Athletic Field Construction Manual* is complete and ready for distribution. This publication was almost four years in the making. Thanks to the manual committee, and a special thanks to Bob Sheard, Editor-in-Chief, and Lee Huether who worked many hours pulling this all together.

I recently attended the Atlantic Turfgrass Conference in Halifax, Nova



Above: STA President Gord Dol (left) presents the association's annual donation to the Ontario Turfgrass Research Foundation. Corrie Almack accepted on behalf of the OTRF.

Scotia, and had the pleasure of sharing the podium with Dr. Eric Lyons for a full day of sports turf education. The session was well attended with good interaction and response from all participants. All of the sports turf sessions were chaired by Gordon Horsman from the City of Moncton, New Brunswick. Gord is a member of the STA and is profiled in this issue. He is working towards starting an Atlantic STA Chapter, so to all of our east coast friends, please contact Gord or Lee at our office.

Finally, part of our mandate set out in our strategic plan is to encourage and support education and research. During the OTS, I had the pleasure of once again presenting an annual donation to the Ontario Turfgrass Research Foundation. This donation was accepted by Corrie Almack on behalf of the OTRF. We have a great team of researchers at the University of Guelph who need and deserve our support. The OTRF is a very worthy cause. Have a safe sports turf season! ♦