

development to design/build. Patios, decks, retaining walls, fences, sprinkler systems and outdoor lighting are all available.

Assignments cover basically all kinds of planting. This past summer, Kramer's men were busy landscaping quite a few newly-built residential homes now waiting for buyers.

One past assignment has become something of a Kramer's signature project. The grounds surrounding St. Bernadette's Church in Westlake was beautifully designed and landscaped, with a large pond to receive drainage from the parking area. Kramer found he needed an area to receive water runoff from the new parking lot, and suggested digging a large pond to collect the water. An aerator was installed, and a parishoner supplied two swans

who took up residence inside the fence.

Decorative mounds were built with dirt left over from the pond construction. Flower and tree arrangements close the public meeting area off from the lot, and provide an appropriately serene setting for churchgoers.

Kramer's is also known for its nursery, which is open to the public daily. Passers-by can view seven acres of trees, shrubs and ornamental and shade trees.

John Kramer's thoughts on the landscaping industry have been formulated and refined during his 40 years of experience. He's seen the best and the worst the industry has to offer, and is an ardent supporter of professionalism. When he sees something less than that, he becomes concerned.

Kramer thinks builders

are becoming more conscious of landscaping as an important part of a project.

"Even fast food chains try to outdo each other in the landscaping of each franchise," Kramer says. "I guess if everybody can get interested and active and stay at it, maybe we can turn it around."

—Terry McIver

The GCSAA will bestow its highest honor, the Old Tom Morris Award, in February. **Sherwood A. Moore**, a 50-year member, will be so honored. Moore has been super at Winged Foot Golf Course in Mamaroneck, N.Y., Woodway C.C. in Darien, Conn. and The Captains G.C. in Brewster, Mass. Recently retired as acting agronomist for the USGA Green Section, Moore continues to work as a consultant at The Captains. □

Industry must wake up, now!

To the editor:

An open letter to the National Arborist Association (see "NAA Set to Battle OSHA Regulation," October LM):

As usual, this industry views any regulation as an affront to its existence.

Our only method of response is "defense fund" and "battle" mentality.

The OSHA-proposed Vertical Standard regulations seem to make sense to me. Especially the CPR requirement. Having a security rope and the necessary training to do work around electricity should have been required long ago.

In our shortsighted effort to be competitive, we always seem to balk at spending a few dollars for the employees' benefit. And then tell them it's the "bad-guy regulators" or us.

You seem to wonder why this industry doesn't have new people interested in "filling the shoes" of older employees. First, if you trained people and then paid them what they're worth and then charged the proper price for services, you would be playing on a more even field. If you hire \$4.50-an-hour people, that's just what you'll get. Do you really think that a person qualified to (1) mix dangerous chemicals, (2) apply those chemicals without common-sense protection, and (3) bust their butts for you should make \$12,000 to \$15,000 per year?

This industry best wake up and start treating its hardest workers with a little respect and a lot more money and charging accordingly.

If you took a little initiative and worked with regulators, the resulting legislation might not seem so restrictive.

Steve G. Shegitz
Metro Turf
Dimondale, Mich.

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