

Northwest TURFGRASS TOPICS

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PUYALLUP, WASHINGTON

December 1983



THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Ray McElhoe

As your new president of the Northwest Turfgrass Association, I am looking forward to a productive year. It is my hope that this year's board will continue all the good that was started by the past president, Dick Malpass.

For those of you who might not know who your board of directors is for this year, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce the rest of them to you. Vice President, Gary Sayre; Executive Secretary, Roy Goss; Treasurer, Bill Campbell; Past President, Dick Malpass; Program Chairman, Mike Nauroth; Research Committee Chairman, Rich Scholes; Golf Tournament Chairman, Jim Connolly; Membership Chairman, John Eby; Membership Co-chairman, Dennis Pagni. Please feel free to contact any of the board if you have any ideas or suggestions for the improvement or betterment of the Northwest Turfgrass Association. They represent you, and, with your input, they will be able to significantly improve your organization.

Some of the goals we hope to accomplish as an organization will be to provide financial support for more research projects; to provide an entertaining, educational, and fulfilling conference; a wider diversification of conference programs; and a major effort will be put forth to get a variety of new members from all areas in the turfgrass industry.

Remember, this organization is here for your benefit—USE IT. You'll be surprised at what you can gain from it.

Winter Management of Turfgrasses

By Roy L. Goss

Is the worst yet to come? No one can really answer this question, but we do know that we had a couple of weeks of real winter weather in December 1983. No doubt this weather will take its toll of *Poa annua* and perhaps cause some injury to other grasses. Those who will suffer less injury from sub-zero temperatures and deep freeze will be turfgrass areas that had received balanced and adequate nutrition throughout the fall period and those where judicious use of the facility was practiced during the freeze.

The following are some suggestions to help prevent winter injury and for recovery from damage:

1. Moderate applications of nitrogen through fall and winter in western Washington and cessation of nitrogen application after November in eastern Washington.
2. Winter applications of nitrogen in western Washington in $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. applications of N when temperatures are above freezing and there is some grass growth.
3. Correct potassium deficiencies in the winter. Potassium will significantly improve winter hardiness and help to reduce winter diseases. Potassium sulfate has a very low burn potential and can be used safely during the winter period.
4. Maintain adequate fungicide applications for disease control. When snow melts in the interior portions of the Northwest, snow mold fungicide should be reapplied. During warm, above freezing temperatures in western Washington, all turfgrass managers should guard against Fusarium patch disease.
5. Strictly prohibit use of frosted and frozen turfgrass areas. Extensive damage from use will occur and delay recovery in the spring.
6. Provide protection for desiccation. When soils are frozen hard and snow cover is absent, winds can dehydrate (desiccate) turfgrass leaves and crown tissue rather rapidly. This will result in death of *Poa annua* and possible severe injury to bentgrasses, bluegrasses, and ryegrasses. Make certain that the crown areas of the turfgrasses do not dry out, even if you have to apply some water through sprayers or tanks. Many covering agents are available that can be placed over turfgrass surfaces to prevent desiccation as well.
7. Strictly prohibit use of turfgrass areas when thawing first begins. Surfaces are completely unstable, have not drained, and shearing of grass roots is certain.
8. Verticut, aerify, overseed, and topdress all damaged areas at the earliest possible date in spring to enhance rapid recovery.
9. Maintain balanced nutritional programs with a 6-1-4 or 3-1-2 ratio of N-P-K throughout the season.

Those of you who may have lost significant amounts of *Poa annua* may find this a golden opportunity to enhance your bentgrass populations in the spring of 1984.

WAMOA

By Roy L. Goss

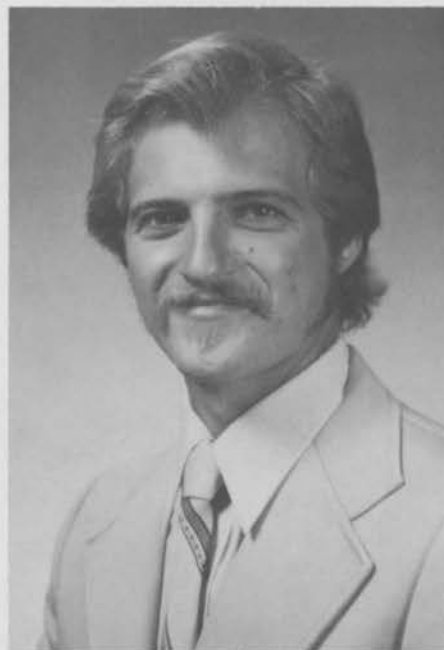
What is WAMOA? The letters stand for Washington Association of Maintenance and Operations Administrators. I offer my congratulations to all of you involved in this worthwhile organization for the purpose of associating and addressing common goals. Their membership includes all persons in school and parks districts, primarily, who are dealing with maintenance and operations of grounds, buildings, etc.

Each educational service district, which may be made up of as many as three or four contiguous counties, has a chapter within the state organization. The individual chapters hold regular meetings to discuss common problems and educational programs, and they come together for an annual conference.

Many of the WAMOA members are also members of the Northwest Turfgrass Association, and through this organization we hope to have many more participating members in the Northwest Turfgrass Association. It is further appreciated that this organization provided a great deal of assistance when the Cooperative Extension Service of Washington State University sponsored five all-day seminars at various parts of western Washington during late November and December on the construction and maintenance of natural grass athletic fields.

The Cooperative Extension Service has plans at this time to continue with seminars of this nature in eastern Washington in early spring.

The officers and directors of the Northwest Turfgrass Association join me in wishing you much success with the WAMOA organization.



Dr. Jeff Nus Research Associate

Dr. Jeff Nus was born and raised in northeast Iowa where his turfgrass background included residential lawn care, working on a sod farm, and caretaker of the city cemetery. He attained his Bachelors, Masters, and Doctorate degrees from Iowa State University after spending two years in Germany with the U.S. Army. His undergraduate studies were primarily in botany and chemistry, while his graduate research dealt with various aspects of stress physiology.

During the last five years at ISU, Dr. Nus was employed as a Predoctoral Research Associate for the Horticulture Department. His responsibilities included renovation, implementation, and maintenance of all of Iowa State University's turfgrass research plots. His research interests are in the area of stress physiology—how heat, cold, drought, disease, salt, or pollution affect the physiology of turfgrasses. EDITOR'S NOTE: Dr. Nus accepted the Turfgrass Research Associate position at Washington State University's Western Washington Research and Extension Center at Puyallup, Washington, in October, 1983. We are pleased to have Jeff on our staff and hope that your support will be more than justified.



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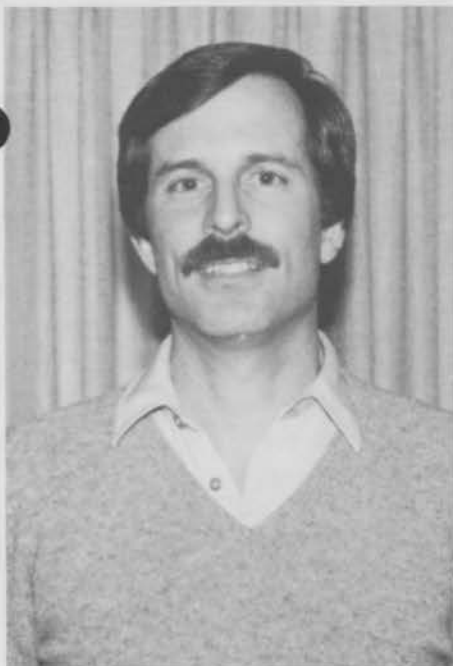
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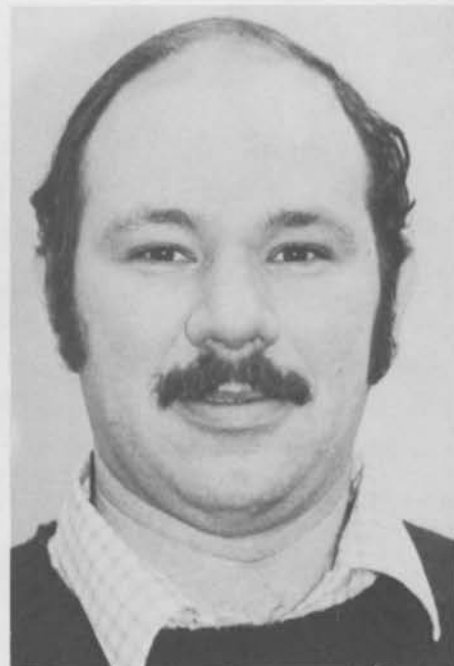
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John Eby



Rich Scholes



Dennis Pagni

Meet Your New Directors

John Eby began golf course work in 1959, during his high school years. In 1967 he became golf course superintendent. He moved to his present location with the city of Mountlake Terrace in 1974. In 1980 he convinced the city management he needed another job so they gave him not one but two and a 5 percent raise for 200 percent more fun.

In John's position at the Park and Recreation Department he supervises a 40-acre nine-hole municipal golf course that plays 40,000 rounds per year and 150 acres of parks and playfields, including two high-use sports complexes, a municipal pool, and racquetball courts with the highest user rate in the state of Washington. He also has a neat staff for support.

John has been a member of the Northwest Golf Course Superintendents Association for a number of years serving as golf tournament chairman one year, secretary-treasurer for two years, and president one year. He has also been a member of the Northwest Turfgrass Association for 16 years and was elected to the board of directors in September 1983. John also claims a 16 handicap on the golf course.

John's experience, in addition to the above, also includes one year of teaching at the Edmonds Community College.

John is married to a great woman and has three children that he says are characters. His sports and recreation, in addition to golf, includes scuba diving, sailing, and cycling.

EDITOR'S COMMENT: John has always taken an active role in any organization to which he has belonged and made many contributions to the Northwest Golf Course Superintendents Association. Due to his untiring efforts and energies in working for the betterment of any organization, John's talents were recognized and he was elected to the board of directors by popular vote of the membership. We are very pleased to have John serving as one of our board members.

Rich Scholes is currently the golf course superintendent at Tualatin Country Club at Tualatin, Oregon, where he has been employed for the past 8 years.

Prior to his present position he worked on golf courses most of his younger years and attended Oregon State University where he earned a B.S. degree in Agronomy.

Rich is married and has four children and his hobbies are golf, plants, and playing the guitar.

Rich is a dedicated turfgrass scientist and likes his work as a golf course superintendent very much. He has been active in the Oregon Golf Course Superintendents Association where he has served as president of that organization as well. He states that, "Being elected to the board of directors of the Northwest Turfgrass Association is exciting to me and I am looking forward to serving in any way that I can."

We are very pleased to have Rich serving on the board of directors. With his interest and enthusiasm, we know that we will show continual growth and improvement.

Dennis Pagni is Operations Manager for North Clackamas School District, Milwaukie, Oregon, where he has been employed since 1977. He manages the maintenance operations for 27 schools and 365 acres of turf and athletic fields.

Prior to working with NCSD, Dennis was employed in the field of Parks and Recreation as assistant superintendent for the City of San Rafael, CA, and the City of Louisville, KY. He has a M.S. degree from the University of Louisville and a B.S. from Oregon State University.



Paul Colleran, turf management senior at Oregon State University, (left), received a \$500 TUCO Turf Scholarship Award from Randy King, TUCO representative. TUCO is a division of The Upjohn Company.

Turf Scholarships

Two horticulture students at Oregon State University have received turf management scholarships.

Russell Vandehey, a junior in turf management, received the Bruce Faddis Memorial Award, tuition for one term. The award honors a former student who was killed May 18, 1980, during Mount St. Helen's eruption. Vandehey is the son of Ellis and Marie Vandehey, 425 East Cedar Street, Stayton.

The other award was presented to Paul Colleran, a turf management senior, son of Thomas and Mireille Colleran, 1439 179th Place N.E., Bellevue, Washington. The \$500 TUCO Turf Scholarship was presented by Randy King, TUCO representative. TUCO is a division of The Upjohn Company.

Both scholarships are awarded for academic achievement, career interest, and personal attributes.



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Research Fund Contributors For 1983

Research and scholarship grants are some of the best means for future progress in the turfgrass industry that you and I can make. Without new knowledge and better trained turfgrass managers, we cannot provide the quality of turfgrass facilities that are expected of us in this age of high technology.

Universities throughout the country have been crippled for funding to adequately support research and scholarship programs and your contributions are playing a significant role in this most worthy cause.

The board of directors of the Northwest Turfgrass Association have encouraged and solicited contributions from the entire turfgrass industry to create this special research fund. The majority of the funds collected through these efforts are directed toward the support of a post-doctoral research associate in Washington State University's turfgrass research program while other parts of the fund are utilized to support research and scholarships at Oregon State University and Washington State University's Pullman campus.

It is with sincere appreciation that we recognize the generosity and support of the following contributors for 1983.

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38th Northwest Turfgrass Conference

Plans are moving ahead rapidly for the 38th Annual Northwest Turfgrass Conference to be held on September 25, 26, and 27, 1984. As usual, you can arrive any time between Sunday afternoon and Tuesday morning and participate in all of the activities.

Monday, as usual, will be devoted to arrivals, golf tournament, registration, and friendly get-togethers. The educational program will begin promptly on Tuesday morning and continue with the same format through Thursday noon.

Those of you who wish to play golf will find an interesting and exciting tournament and activities planned by Jim Connolly, NTA Director, in charge of the golf tournament and golf program.

Nancy McElhoe and her associates are already at work planning an interesting and full schedule of ladies' events. Mike Nauroth, Chairman of the Program Committee, and Roy Goss are finalizing program items and speakers and should have everything in order by March or early April, 1984.

We feel that this will be an exciting and interesting conference and we are looking forward to the big event in September.

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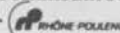


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55th International Turfgrass Conference and Show

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America will hold its 55th International Turfgrass Conference and Show in Las Vegas, Nevada, from January 28 through February 3, 1984. This conference and show is, no doubt, the biggest of its kind in the world and has something to offer anyone interested in advanced technology in the field of turfgrass sciences. It is the largest equipment and product show of its kind and, of course, the educational program is packed with good subject matter and speakers. In addition to the product and equipment show and the educational program, there are seminars in varied subjects offered to those who wish to sign up and participate.

On Monday, January 30, 1984, there will be a golf course superintendents Christian fellowship prayer breakfast at 7 a.m., at the MGM Grande Hotel, in the Metro Room No. 5. The room will be open at 6:30 a.m. for coffee and fellowship with friends and their guest speaker at the breakfast will be Jim Otto, formerly All-Pro Center for the Oakland Raiders.

If you have not already registered, you should do so at once and plan to attend this conference if you can.

WCTA Conference at Victoria

The Western Canada Turfgrass Association will hold its annual conference and show at the Empress Hotel at Victoria, British Columbia, February 26-29, 1984. The officers and directors of the Western Canada Turfgrass Association do an outstanding job in planning and producing an excellent educational conference and product and equipment show.

The Western Canada Turfgrass Association has shown constant growth over the last 10-12 years. In addition to the many golf course memberships in both British Columbia and Alberta, there are an increasing number of school and parks officials who are participants. Any of the readership of the *Northwest Turfgrass Topics* are encouraged to attend this conference, if possible, and you will find it both interesting and informative.

Good luck and best wishes for a most successful conference.

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Dr. William H. Daniel 1984 USGA Green Section Award

Dr. William H. Daniel, Professor of Agronomy at Purdue University, has been selected as the recipient of the 1984 Green Section Award, presented by the United States Golf Association in recognition of distinguished service to golf through work with turfgrass.

Dr. Daniel will receive the award on February 2, 1984, at the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America Annual Banquet and Show at the MGM Grand Hotel in Las Vegas. The presentation will be made by George M. Bard, Chairman of the USGA Green Section Awards Committee.

The USGA established the Green Section Award in 1961 to honor those persons meriting special recognition for their distinguished service to golf in any phase of work with turfgrass, i.e., research, education, extension, superintendents, maintenance, management, etc.

When Dr. Daniel began his turfgrass research career there were only a few individuals actively engaged in this area in the United States. His accomplishments over the years are many, and some of them include development of pre-emergence controls for crabgrass, use of calcium arsenate for control of *Poa annua*, development of the bluegrass variety Sodco, extensive work on soil conditioners and porous rootzone mixtures and the invention of the Prescription Athletic Turf System (PAT) for use on football and baseball fields.

Bill Daniel is well deserving of this honor and we extend to him our heartiest compliment.

Larry W. Gilhuly Appointed Green Section Director Western Region

Larry W. Gilhuly of Bothell, Washington, formerly assistant golf superintendent, Seattle Golf and Country Club, has been named director of the Western Region of the United States Golf Association Green Section.

Gilhuly replaces Donald D. Hoos, who resigned his position in September to accept the position of golf superintendent at the Golf Club of Oklahoma, in Tulsa. Gilhuly will be based in Placentia, California, and will be responsible for turf advisory service visits to USGA member clubs and courses in the states of California, Nevada, Utah, Arizona, Idaho, Oregon, Washington, Hawaii, and Alaska.

Born in Kelso, Washington, Gilhuly was graduated with honors from Washington State University which he attended as an Evans Scholar. For nine years he was the assistant golf superintendent at Seattle Golf Club, the site of the 1981 U.S. Senior Amateur Championship.


Gilhuly is a member of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America and has spoken at numerous turfgrass meetings, including the GCSAA International Turfgrass Conference and Show. He is a member of the Northwest Golf Course Superintendents Association and the co-founder and co-editor of its newsletter. He also is active in the Northwest Turfgrass Association.

For the past four years, Gilhuly has been the coordinator of the golf course employees workshop, an annual training and educational conference.

The Green Section's Western Region address remains unchanged. It is 200 N. Bradford, Suite L, Placentia, CA 92670. The telephone number is (714) 996-3372.

Created in 1920, the USGA Green Section is a scientific agency dedicated to the improvement of playing conditions of golf courses in the United States.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Congratulations, Larry, and the best of luck to you. We look forward to your visits in the Northwest.

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Contributions from individuals are encouraged and gratefully accepted as well.

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Kah-Nee-Ta Conference Wrap-up

The 37th Northwest Turfgrass Conference at Kah-Nee-Ta Resort, Warm Spring, OR, was perhaps our most successful conference ever. According to suggestions and comments from attendees, 95 percent of us were very pleased with the location. You can be assured that any time you please 95 percent of your audience it has to be good. The facilities were most appropriate, the weather was beautiful, and the educational programs were most enlightening and educational.

By now you should have received your 172-page proceedings with all of the documented information from a large array of competent speakers.

The split sessions turned out extremely well and will be repeated at conferences in the future.

The officers and directors of the Northwest Turfgrass Association kindly thank all of the people, all of the speakers, and participants who took their time and effort to make this our best conference ever. Pass the word among your friends and associates and bring them out to the 1984 conference, and let's see if we can't surpass the attendance of 1983.

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