

## GREEN SECTION STAFF RECOGNITION

Jim Snow, national director of the USGA Green Section, has announced a new staff title, Senior Agronomist, for Green Section regional agronomists who have demonstrated an outstanding commitment and dedication to their work over a minimum period of 10 years on staff.

Effective October 1, 2003, four members of the Green Section staff will now use the new designation. Bob Vavrek, who visits golf courses in Minnesota, Michigan, and Wisconsin in the North-Central Region, joined the staff in 1990. Keith Happ, now based in Pittsburgh, has spent 10 years visiting golf courses in the Mid-Atlantic Region. Jim Skorulski joined the Northeast Region in 1989 and focuses his visits in the New England area. Bud White has had two stints with the Green Section for a total of 12 years. The first covered the period 1978 through 1987 in the Southeast Region, and the second commenced with the 2002 season in the Mid-Continent Region, where he concentrates on the southern half of the region. Congratulations are extended to these four deserving individuals.

## STANLEY J. ZONTEK RECEIVES THE PTC 2003 DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

The Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council (PTC) annually recognizes an individual who has exhibited outstanding service to the turfgrass industry. A specially appointed President's Committee of PTC announced Stanley J. Zontek as the recipient of the 2003 Distinguished Service Award. Mr. Zontek has been director of the Green Section for the Mid-Atlantic Region since 1985, having first joined the USGA in 1971.



PTC President Jerred D. Golden (left) honored Stan Zontek with the Distinguished Service Award on behalf of the 900 members of the Council.

The award was presented in front of an audience of nearly 600 industry leaders and future turfgrass professionals during the Penn State Golf Turf Conference on November 12, 2003, in State College, Pa. Stanley, a long-term Council member, was honored for championing the Penn State turfgrass program over many years and for his support of initiatives both within Pennsylvania and nationally that have improved the status of the industry.

Now operating out of an office in West Chester, Pa., Stanley is the USGA's longest-tenured employee. Shortly after his graduation from Penn State with a degree in Agronomy: Turfgrass Management, he took a job as agronomist in the USGA Green Section's Northeastern Region. Through the years he has served as director for the Northeast Region and the North-Central Region prior to assuming his present position as director for the Mid-Atlantic Region.

## DEDICATION OF THE JAMES B. BEARD TURFGRASS LIBRARY COLLECTION

On July 16, 2003, friends, colleagues, and family members of James B. Beard gathered at Michigan State University's Turfgrass Information Center for the dedication of the James B. Beard Turfgrass Library Collection.

Dr. Beard served at Michigan State University (MSU) from 1961 to 1975

and at Texas A&M University from 1975 to 1992. After his retirement from Texas A&M, he became President and Chief Scientist of the International Sports Turf Institute. Beard's classic *Turfgrass: Science and Culture*, published in 1973 and still in print, continues as the landmark publication regarding turfgrass science. His *Turf Management for Golf Courses*, written in conjunction with the USGA Green Section staff, first released in 1982 and revised in 2002, remains the best-selling reference work in the field.



Dr. Paul Rieke (right) congratulates Dr. Beard on the donation of his turfgrass book collection to the Turfgrass Information Center.

Dr. Beard is a world-renowned turfgrass scientist. He has authored 257 scientific papers, 382 articles, and five books. The Beard Turfgrass Collection is acknowledged to be the finest personal collection of turf-related material in existence. It includes international coverage of the turfgrass research and management literature contained in more than 30,000 books, periodicals, and technical reports. The Beard Collection serves as a non-circulating reference collection within the Turfgrass Information Center in the Main Library. The Turfgrass Information File (TGIF) will provide article-level access to all items within the Collection. TGIF, an online database that indexes and abstracts the literature of turfgrass, is jointly sponsored by the United States Golf Association (USGA) and the MSU Libraries. The MSU Libraries maintain, produce, and host the TGIF. The arrival of the Beard Collection makes MSU the strongest public repository of turfgrass literature in the world.

For additional information on TGIF, contact: [www.lib.msu.edu/tgif](http://www.lib.msu.edu/tgif).