

# Hidek Herald

*An online newsletter for your entertainment*

**October 2008**

## **PROPRIETOR'S MESSAGE**

### **HIDEK LAUNCHES 23<sup>rd</sup> YEAR**

*By John Trotta, Proprietor  
Hidek Supply*

September 15, 1986. That was the day HIDEK Supply opened for business. Thanks to your support over the years, we're now entering our 23<sup>rd</sup> year serving our customers by providing expert advice on the design, selection and use of fabricated bar grating products, Speed-Rail component aluminum handrail systems, fiberglass structural items and spiral staircases for industrial applications.

More notably, our suppliers in 2008 are the same suppliers we had in 1986. Weland and Hollaender have grown with us over those 23 years, as have AMICO-Klemp (Klemp Corporation in 1986) and Structural Fiberglass (CRMC in 1986).

Some of the changes we've seen:

- 1) In 1986, there was a debate raging over whether a business should continue using the telex machine or should try out that new invention, the fax;
- 2) When we traveled in 1986, we had to be sure we could find a pay phone so that we could call into the office to get our messages. This practice became less important when someone invented a phone that you could install in your car. Of course, it cost \$1.40 per minute to talk on the thing, assuming you didn't have to play roaming fees;
- 3) And in 1986, HIDEK decided to experiment with what was called a "personal computer," to see if it could be used to store business information such as customer names, addresses, phone numbers, quotes and orders. That first PC had 25 MB of hard disk storage and 500 or so KB of random-access memory.

In 2008 the fax is nearing obsolescence, telex machines are found in museums, you can talk all you want to anyone on your cell phone for about \$50/month, and computer speeds and storage capacities are measured in gigabytes. I doubt that anyone even knows what a kilobyte is anymore.

The founding principles of our business, though, have remained constant:

- 1) The interests of our customers come first;
- 2) Attention to the details of quoting, order entry and project management are second to no other firm;
- 3) We pride ourselves on expertise regarding the design, use and manufacturing of our products.

Thank you for your continued business and good wishes.

## Tami's Gardening Corner

# **Aeration prepares your lawn for today and tomorrow**

By Tami Kamin-Meyer

Aeration might sound like a name of an aeronautic maneuver, but it actually refers to something done to a lawn this time of year. Aerating grass means pulling up cores of soil to allow water and oxygen to seep into the dirt, encouraging a deeper and healthier root system.

Aeration also helps control thatch buildup and improve soil structure while opening up new supply routes for water and oxygen to reach the grass's roots.

## **Aerating 101**

Despite the long-term benefits of aerating a lawn, it is often a neglected maintenance chore, likely because it calls for physical labor. To make the task easier, you can rent a 'lawn aerator' from an equipment rental center.

The lawn aerator equipment will pull up 'cores' that look like plugs of soil out of the ground, allowing air in. These plugs should be approximately 2-3" in depth and spaced between three to six inches apart.

A less expensive method is walking over the lawn in spiked shoes or sticking a narrow, round stick into the ground to pull up earth.

No matter the method you use to aerate your lawn, thoroughly watering the lawn the day before it is to be aerated makes the job easier. However, do not water to the point of muddying up the lawn.

The fall season is best suited to lawn aeration in the Northern portion of the U.S. However, it can also be undertaken in the spring, as soon as the soil has thawed.

It's best to aerate your lawn at least once a year, although twice is better. That is especially true for soils comprised of heavy clay content, those with moderate thatch build-up and any lawn in disrepair.

## **Snatch the thatch**

Thatch is a layer of decomposing grass, tree branches, roots and other organic debris that accumulates on the soil's surface. While a thin layer of thatch can benefit a lawn by protecting it from extreme weather conditions, a layer thicker than ½ inch can impede the movement of oxygen and moisture while becoming a haven for insects.

Excessive thatch makes it difficult for your lawn to breathe. Performing

lawn aeration at least once, but ideally twice a year, will significantly improve the health and appearance of your grass. Likewise, removing thatch when it blankets your lawn is important for the grass's health, too. Raking or blowing excess leaves and branches off the lawn is also important because it allows air and water to reach your grass's roots.

To be sure you're removing as much thatch as possible, rake or blow deeply, rather than just on the lawn's surface.

### **Don't forget the drink**

When watering your lawn, skip the hose. Watering with a hand-held hose is bad for your soil, grass and plants because the water tends to stay above the soil.

The best method for watering is an irrigation system because the water seeps deeper into the ground. Watering with a hose encourages shallow root growth since plant roots will do what it must to obtain moisture. If water is sitting on top of the soil rather than seeping into it, roots will be shallower and less healthy.

Since an irrigation system is designed to water for a longer period of time in a consistent pattern, the water permeates the soil more thoroughly and deeply. This method encourages healthy root growth since the roots can remain deep in the ground, protecting them from winter's harsh weather and summer's searing heat.

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*Tami Kamin-Meyer is an Ohio attorney and oft-published freelancer whose byline has appeared in Better Homes and Gardens, The Rotarian, Utah CEO and Ohio Super Lawyers.*

### ***Quote of the Month:***



***“Autumn is a second spring where every leaf is a flower”***

*Albert Camus*

## Larry Harris on Sports



### **'TERRIBLE TOMMY' MADE CLUB-THROWING AN ART**

By Larry Harris

The man they called "Terrible Tommy" Bolt died on August 30, but the stories about his irascible demeanor will live on as long as there are green, gorgeous golf courses, as long as man hits a little white ball with a stick and then chases after it.

Tommy "Thunder" Bolt passed away at a ripe old 92 in Arkansas, and on his tombstone they should have carved an inscription crowning him the king of the genteel, sophisticated, dignified art of club-throwing. And the funny thing about it was that Bolt underneath was a kind, gentle soul who would give you the proverbial shirt off his proverbial back.

No one could turn golf clubs into javelins the way Bolt did back in the 1950s -- and he did it with style. As he once said, "Always throw clubs ahead of you down the fairway. That way you won't waste any energy going back to pick them up."

Golf Digest columnist and noted author Tom Callahan says no one on the current PGA tour can come close to the legendary Bolt, "although Pat Perez is OK."

Admiration for Bolt's club-throwing was nearly matched by praise for his playing. Gary Player once told Callahan, "Did you

ever see Tommy Bolt swing? He had a classic swing. Only Sam Snead had a prettier one. Other than Tiger Woods, I don't think anybody on the regular tour today hits it better than Tommy Bolt."

Player should know. The South African great watched Bolt finish four strokes ahead of him in the 1958 U.S. Open, the one title that Bolt always wanted to win.

"When I won the U.S. Open at Southern Hills in 1958, we still had a 36-hole finish on Saturday," Bolt told Golf Digest a few years back. "We didn't play on Sunday because that was the Lord's day, you see. But seven years later, the USGA and television discovered there was a lot of money to be made on the Lord's day, and that was the end of the 36-hole finish."

No one can vouch for the veracity of the story that Bolt once threw his entire bag in a pond at the end of a round, then not yet satisfied, chased his caddie around the pond with all intentions of giving him a bath, too.

Bolt did tell a great story on himself when he was inducted into the World Golf Hall of Fame. He was playing in the Bing Crosby Pro-Am one year with 135 yards left to the 18th hole. "I asked my caddie for a 7-iron," Bolt said, "and he replied, 'It's either a 3-iron or a 3-wood. Those are the only ones left.' "

It wasn't Bolt, but one of the local hackers who not too many years ago tossed his bag into the 18th hole lake and stalked off the course, leaving a host of onlookers standing around and watching the bubbles. Fifteen minutes later he reappeared and, fully dressed, plunged into the water and submerged near where he had tossed his clubs. The hooting wise guys had begun to look at their watches and count the seconds when he finally came up for air. Once again he stomped toward the clubhouse, but this time in his dripping hand he carried his car keys.

## PET OF THE MONTH



Tappy is a 5-month-old Jack Russell terrier who hasn't barked yet. Everyone who sees Tappy says the same thing..... “

**“Enjoy it. You'll be sorry when he does start barking!”**

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<i>Publisher: John Trotta</i>
<i>Editor: Pat Trotta</i>
<i>Larry Harris – sportswriter</i>
<i>Tami Kamin-Meyer – lifestyle columnist</i>
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