



THE NEWSLETTER

December 2009

of the **Golf Course Superintendents Association of New England, Inc.**

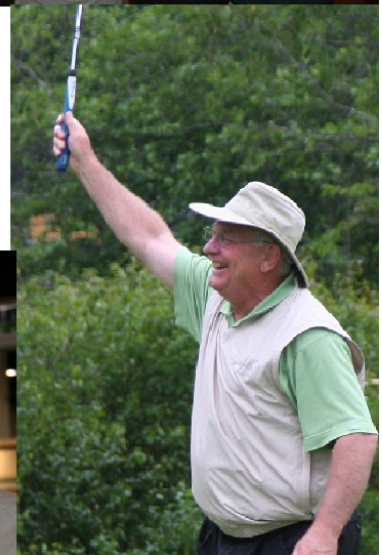
Sponsors and administrators of the Troll-Dickinson Scholarship Fund – Awarded yearly to deserving Turf Management Students.

Goodbye to a Memorable 2009 A Year in Review

By: Rich Gagnon



2009



The 2009 season was kicked off in January at the annual meeting at Wellesley Country Club where the distinguished service award was awarded to not one but two deserving individuals. Norman and Robert Mucciarone took home the association's top honor. The Mucciarone brothers had nearly 90 years of service to New England golf course management between them. Norman was the superintendent at Woodland Golf Club in Auburndale, Massachusetts from 1951-1991. During those same 40 years, Norman's

twin brother, Robert, was the superintendent 10 miles down the road at the Dedham Country & Polo Club. Well deserved and congratulations to them both. Not long after the Mucciarone brothers walked away with their personalized chairs James R. Fitzroy, CGCS, director of golf at Wollaston Recreational Facility/Presidents Golf Club in North Quincy, Massachusetts was elected vice president of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America at the Golf Industry Show held in New Orleans. What a huge honor it

is to have one of our own representing the Golf Course Superintendents Association of New England so well. I am sure this association is looking forward to supporting Jim as he kicks off his GCSAA presidency in San Diego in February at the Golf Industry Show.

In 2009 the GCSANE had the privilege of visiting some amazing golf courses as they hosted our monthly meetings. It was a treat this year to play some of the finest golf courses in

continued on page 2

GCSANE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Year in Review - continued from page 1

the state of Massachusetts. This years host sites included Whitinsville Golf Club, Franklin Country Club, Segregansett Country Club, Marlboro Country Club, Hatherly Country Club, Wellesley Country Club, Oak Hill Country Club, Juniper Hill Golf Club and Milton Hoosic Golf Club. Hats off to our golf chairman David Stowe, CGCS, for his amazing ability to line up great host sites month after month and year after year. According to David the slate for 2010 looks to be a fantastic one as well. Some of the committed host sites for 2010 include Charles River, Marlboro Country Club, Lexington Golf Club and Mount Pleasant Golf Club. A big thanks goes out to our president Patrick Daly, CGCS, who hosted not one but 2 monthly meetings in 2009 including March and December of 2009. Pat also opened his doors for the Board of Directors and hosted at least 3 board meetings at his club. Much appreciated

On the golf course Chris Tufts captured individual champion honors at Marlboro Country Club out dueling Ron Dobosz during one of the hottest days of the year. Tufts' 76 was good enough to capture the title and Garrett Whitney was the gross winner of our affiliate division. Nat Binns completed 100 holes in this years Ouimet Marathon with Carl Miner as his caddie. The marathon took place at Stow Acres with Binns and Miner raising over \$4000 for this great fund. The GCSANE was victorious at Franklin Country Club as we captured The Bear Cup with a winning score of 9 to 6 over the Cape association.

A huge thank-you to Scott Lagana, CGCS, our Membership chairman and Peter Hasak our Government Relations chairman as they step down from the board this year after many years of dedicated and much appreciated service. Thanks guys. This year we welcomed to the board two newcomers Carl Miner (S&B Chairman) and Dave Johnson (Education Chairman). Our association marked 2009 as a milestone year as we welcomed a new position to the Board of Directors. An af-

filiate trustee position was voted upon and congratulations go out to Dave Wallace as the 1st affiliate trustee to be voted to this position. Not many people were aware that the voting for this position was closer than Gore/Bush. The voting actually resulted in a tie with Wallace and Mark Casey receiving 53 votes each. Wallace won the tie-breaker by having been a GCSANE member 3 months longer than Casey.

2009 will also be remembered as the spring and summer it never stopped raining only to be followed by unusually hot temperatures heading into September. This lead to a lot of headaches for superintendents around the entire region. Reports of greens declining in the weeks following core aeration flooded the offices of the USGA. Most of the damage was a result of saturated soils, heavy rains, the heat, high humidity, low soil oxygen and summer patch. For those of us that lost turf the USGA suggests using this opportunity to evaluate the maintenance programs and conditions that contributed to the turf loss. Try to make something positive out of a negative situation. That may be as simple as gathering enough support to address the agronomic issues that plague the greens or allows greater scheduling flexibility. This was also a year that introduced us to the Asian Longhorn Beetle (ALB) which invaded trees in the Worcester, Massachusetts area.

This year our association acknowledged 4 recipients of the coveted 25-year pin. This year's pins were awarded to Jack Hassett, Arthur Miller, Mike Hannigan and John Coffey. Congratulations to all 4 gentlemen and thanks for your dedication.

Best of luck to all our members as we prepare for 2010. Hopefully everyone got their snow mold protection down before the blizzard hit last week. Hope to see you in San Diego! ❖

An Icy Start To Winter

By the USGA's Adam Moeller

December 16, 2009

Many locations of the Northeast Region are off to a tough start to the winter season with recent snow and rain storms causing an early formation of ice across greens, tees, and fairways. Widespread winter injury occurred across the northern tier of the region last year and the early ice formation this year is extremely frustrating and also threatening.

Dealing with ice formation is difficult and requires careful analysis before removal is considered. Snow/ice removal followed by a significant drop in air temperatures can be lethal to the turf. On the other hand, turf covered by ice for an extended time can be severely injured by suffocation or anoxia. For *Poa annua*, ice encasement problems typically arise after 60 days of continuous ice cover while bentgrass generally lasts for a month longer under ice. However, there are many variables affecting turf performance such as organic matter levels, the level of hardiness attained, soil temperatures, etc. Removing ice now probably isn't necessary, but given the injury experienced last year, it might be tempting.



Early snow/ice accumulation in the Toronto area and other parts of the region should be closely monitored over the next few weeks to identify the best course of action to minimize potential winter injury.

Since most turf has probably not fully hardened off, tolerance of ice encasement will be reduced.

At this point, it is difficult to determine the best course of action. The ice may melt all by itself, solving the problem. Removal often is risky, but assisting natural ice removal if temperatures warm a little would make good sense. For instance, if there is a predicted warming trend that looks sufficient for melting the ice, helping it along by applying melting agents (i.e. black sand) would be appropriate. Hastening the melt if the weather is not likely to be warm enough for the turf to clear off completely may lead to more freeze-thaw cycles, which can be disastrous.

Pressure to remove snow/ice layers early could be a response from pressures created by course decision makers who remember the problems experienced last winter. Keep in mind, removing snow/ice layers can cause significant mechanical damage so if you do need to remove snow/ice accumulations, be careful not to create a problem when trying to solve another.

The recent snow/ice accumulation may also have disrupted preventative snow mold applications in the southern tier of the region. Hopefully the warming trend experienced earlier this week has helped clear some snow/ice and the applications can be made as soon as possible. Now is the time to make these applications if they haven't been done so already.

The winter season is certainly off to an interesting start. When communicating the potential problems that can arise on golf courses as a result of winter weather, be sure everyone understands that there are some variables that can be controlled and some that cannot.

From everyone in the Northeast Region Green Section office, have a great holiday season! ❖

Green Section Record Survey

We encourage you to take a few minutes to fill out a brief survey included in the 2009 November/December issue of the *Green Section Record*. Your opinion is important for maintaining and improving the quality of the *Green Section Record* magazine.

USGA agronomists can provide insightful and invaluable information involving all areas of golf course maintenance, which will help maximize turf health, playability, and efficiency. Contact Dave Oatis, director doatis@usga.org; Adam Moeller, agronomist amoeller@usga.org; or Jim Skorulski, senior agronomist jskorulski@usga.org for a Turf Advisory Service visit in the 2010 season.

Annual UMASS/MALCP Winter Lawn Care Conference Wednesday, January 20, 2010 (snow date Jan. 21)

The Annual UMass/MALCP Winter Lawn Care Conference is an excellent opportunity for professionals who work in the landscape and lawn care industries to attend an educational session during the off-season. Individuals registering for the 2010 Winter Lawn Care Conference will have the option to choose one of two education tracks: Business or Technical. As in the past, a cadre of expert speakers will emphasize effective and efficient turf management practices in the Technical Track, the theme of which will be Environmentally Responsible Management of Turf Damaging Insects. Presenters in the Business Management Track, geared towards owners and managers, will report on current trends and offer insight on managing a successful enterprise in the 21st century. All 2010 Winter Lawn Care Conference attendees are invited to attend an on-site trade show, and Business Track participants will have the opportunity to attend a post-conference reception.

Who should attend the 2010 Winter Lawn Care Conference? Lawn, landscape, municipal and sports turf professionals and associated staff who want to learn more about cutting-edge concepts and current issues facing the industry. Business owners and managers who want to learn from the best of their colleagues and make their businesses thrive. Anyone interested in ecologically sound, economically feasible turf management.

Technical Track participants can choose either 5 pesticide recertification contact hours valid for all New England states for category 37 (turf) and category 00 (licensed applicator), or 4 contact hours for category 37 (turf) plus 1 contact hour for category 36 (shade tree and ornamental). Credits for the following professional certifications have also been requested for the Technical Track: the Massachusetts Association of Landscape Professionals MCLP certification, the Massachusetts Nursery and Landscape

Association's MCH certification, the Sports Turf Managers Association CSFM certification and the Northeast Organic Farming Association's Accredited Organic Land Care Professional certification. Pesticide recertification contact hours have been requested for Business Track participants. ❖

For complete information on the 2010 Winter Lawn Care Conference, visit <http://www.umassturf.org>. For questions specific to the Technical Track, contact Mary Owen at (508) 892-0382; mowen@umext.umass.edu or Jason Lanier at (413) 545-2965; jdlanier@umext.umass.edu. For Business Track questions, contact Karen Connelly at (781) 274-7373; malcp@yahoo.com.

Now Available: UMass Extension's 2010 Green Directory

The 2010 UMass Extension Green Directory is a comprehensive guide to educational resources for Massachusetts Agriculture and Green Industry professionals. This free 40 page guide can be used as a reference all year long!

The directory includes:

* Contact information for UMass Extension Agriculture and Landscape Specialists and Faculty

* Upcoming UMass Extension conferences, seminars and workshops

* UMass Plant Diagnostic Lab submission information for insect, tick, disease and cultural problems

* UMass Soil and Plant Tissue Testing Lab information

* Pesticide license information, including test dates, training workshops, and how to get a pesticide license

* Phone resources to refer home gardener questions

* Extension newsletters, web sites and publications

* Frequently used phone numbers related to Agriculture and the Green industries

To download a PDF copy of the directory, visit <http://www.umassturf.org> and click on 'Green Directory'. For a hard copy, call (413) 545-0895, fax a request to (413) 577-1620, or email eweeks@umext.umass.edu. ❖

Ahearn Equipment Dedicated to Growth and Customer Service

By: Mike DiRico

Ahearn Equipment Inc. is pleased to announce the hiring of a new outside sales representative, Mike DiRico. Most recently, Mike served 8 years as Assistant Superintendent to his father, Bob, at the prestigious Brae Burn Country Club. Recognizing the value in hiring a sales person highly experienced in the golf industry, Ahearn Equipment jumped at the opportunity to include Mike on their team. "We are excited about the addition of Mike DiRico," states Josh Ahearn, Sales Manager at Ahearn Equipment. "Golf course superintendents have unique and specific needs, and we felt that it was important that our outside salesperson could recognize and address those needs."

Ahearn Equipment, located in Spencer MA, is firmly rooted in the community as a leader in business and customer service. What started in 1977 as a small repair shop has grown into a multi-million dollar equipment

dealer housed in a 24,000 sq. ft. facility. Ahearn Equipment represents over 50 brands, including Kubota, Stihl, ASV, Exmark, NAPA Auto Parts and Agrimetall. Many of these products are on display in Ahearn Equipment's enormous showroom in Spencer MA. "Having a state of the art showroom and repair facility is fantastic in terms of the support and service it provides me in the field" says Mike. "It's too bad superintendents are often too busy to visit. I think they would be impressed if they could come out and see the facility." However, Ahearn Equipment understands that not everyone has extra time, and that is precisely the reason that Ahearn hired Mike DiRico. "I am not just here to knock on doors and push out equipment. My task is to extend the same superior customer service, that Ahearn provides at the store, to our outside customers like golf courses," says Mike. "I also look forward to using my

industry experience to help fit the right piece of equipment with the right application."

Despite the downturn in the economy, Ahearn Equipment has managed to maintain steady growth and has not relented in the efforts to improve service to their customers. The hiring of Outside Salesman, Mike DiRico is another step in that direction. If you are interested in speaking with Mike, please contact him by email at miked@aharnequipment.com. ❖



Volunteers Needed for the 2010 Curtis Cup

Dear GCSANE Member,

As you may know, Essex County Club is hosting the 2010 Curtis Cup June 11-13, 2010. The event will be televised on the Golf Channel. I need your help! We are looking for volunteers for the Grounds Department. Attached is the volunteer form. If you or any of your staff are interested in volunteering for the Curtis Cup, please fill out the form by **January 31, 2010** (see [form on next page](#)). A detailed information package will be sent out in March which will describe the tasks, start and end times and all other pertinent information. For more information on the Curtis Cup and Essex County Club, please visit these websites www.2010curtisclub.com and <http://golfclubatlas.com/courses-by-country/usa/essex-county-club>.

Sincerely,
Eric Richardson
Grounds Superintendent
Essex County Club



**2010 Curtis Cup
Grounds Department Volunteer Application**

Thank you for your interest in volunteering for the 2010 Curtis Cup at Essex County Club, Manchester-by-the-Sea, Massachusetts June 11-13th.

Volunteer Information:

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone (Primary): _____ Email Address: _____

Shirt Size: Men's: Sm. ___ Med. ___ Lg. ___ XL ___ Women's: Sm. ___ Med. ___ Lg. ___ XL ___

Days Available:

June 9th (practice round) _____ A.M. ___ Mid-day ___ P.M. ___

June 10th (practice round) _____ A.M. ___ Mid-day ___ P.M. ___

June 11th _____ A.M. ___ Mid-day ___ P.M. ___

June 12th _____ A.M. ___ Mid-day ___ P.M. ___

June 13th _____ A.M. ___ Mid-day ___ P.M. ___

Are you in need of lodging? Yes ___ No ___

A golf shirt and cap will be provided. Khaki slacks are required. A detailed information packet will be mailed to you no later than March 15, 2010.

Please Return Completed Application to:
Essex County Club Grounds Department
P.O. Box 112
Manchester, MA 01944

Or fax to:
Fax: (978)526-8333 Attn: Eric Richardson

**GCSANE Meeting - Framingham Country Club
December 17, 2009
Host: Patrick Daly, CGCS**



Photo Credit: Rich Gagnon



golf industry show

February 10 – 11, 2010
San Diego, CA

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GCSAA Education Conference
Feb. 8 – 12, 2010



NCCOA Annual Conference
Feb. 8 – 12, 2010



CMAA World Conference on
Club Management
Feb. 8 – 13, 2010

PARTICIPATING PARTNERS



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13th Annual New England Regional Turfgrass Conference & Show

March 1-4, 2010
R.I. Convention Center, Providence



Keynote Speaker
Tuesday, March 2
3:45 - 4:30pm

Steve Palermo
Former MLB Umpire

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our condolences are extended to Michelle Maltais and family on the passing of Michelle's father-in-law Ron Maltais on November 13, 2009.

Our condolences are extended to Vin and Joan Iacono on the passing of Joan's mother, Elizabeth O'Connor, on December 18, 2009.

Congratulations to James Small III, CGCS of Olde Scotland Links, GCSAA certified golf course superintendent, who recently completed the renewal process for maintaining his status as a Certified Golf Course Superintendent (CGCS) with the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA).

Introducing a new web site: www.GreenJobsNE.org This site was developed by Brian Maynard (URI Plant Sciences faculty) and Thomas Briggs (URI Computer Sciences stu-

dent). This site offers employers a place to post jobs, internships and volunteer opportunities. It is also a place for students to post their contact information and resumes. The site is powerful - employers can manage their own job postings and even post logos and announcements in any regular file format. Student information is only visible to registered employers and students also can manage all their information from any computer. The registration process is simple, just fill out a short form, pick a password and submit for approval. Please send any comments or questions to Brian Maynard (401) 874-5372 or bmaynard@uri.edu.

As in the past, *The Newsletter* continues to invite Affiliate members to submit a press release about new personnel, new products or a company bio. We will print each and every release free of charge. This is a great way to advertise for free.

GOLF UPDATE

Thanks to all of our host superintendents this year. The 2010 schedule is as follows: April 9 holes- Lexington; May Joint with Cape Cod; June S & B date and Club to be confirmed; July Barbeque meeting and optional golf; August Marlboro; September TBA; October Charles River; November 9 holes Longmeadow.

We still have some months open if you wish to host the association, please contact David Stowe at 617-347-6514.

CALENDAR

January 20, 2010:
GCSANE Annual Meeting
 Cyprian Keyes Golf Club
 Host: Richard Zepp, CGCS

Plan ahead and reserve your space now for The Newsletter advertising opportunities

Member Rates:	Monthly Rate	4 Times Per Yr. (Save 5%)	6 Times Per Yr. (Save 10%)	8 Times Per Yr. (Save 10%)	Annual Rate (Save 17%)
□1/6 page (vertical; 2.375" wide x 4.5" deep)	□\$125.00	□\$475.00	□\$675.00	□\$900.00	□\$1250.00
□1/6 page (horizontal; 5.06" wide x 2.125" deep)	□\$125.00	□\$475.00	□\$675.00	□\$900.00	□\$1250.00
□1/3 page (horizontal; 5.06" wide x 4.5" deep)	□\$200.00	□\$760.00	□\$1080.00	□\$1440.00	□\$2000.00
□1/2 page (horizontal; 7.75" wide x 4.5" deep)	□\$250.00	□\$950.00	□\$1350.00	□\$1800.00	□\$2500.00
□Full Page (vertical; 7.75" wide x 9.25" deep)	□\$500.00	□\$1900.00	□\$2700.00	□\$3600.00	□\$5000.00

Non-Member Rates: *All payments must be received in full before the ad appears in The Newsletter.

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□1/6 page (horizontal; 5.06" wide x 2.125" deep)	□\$150.00	□\$570.00	□\$810.00	□\$1080.00	□\$1500.00
□1/3 page (horizontal; 5.06" wide x 4.5" deep)	□\$240.00	□\$912.00	□\$1296.00	□\$1728.00	□\$2400.00
□1/2 page (horizontal; 7.75" wide x 4.5" deep)	□\$300.00	□\$1140.00	□\$1620.00	□\$2160.00	□\$3000.00
□Full Page (vertical; 7.75" wide x 9.25" deep)	□\$600.00	□\$2280.00	□\$3240.00	□\$4320.00	□\$6000.00

****DEADLINE for ads: The first of the month for that month's issue.***

***Send all Newsletter ads to: Julie Heston, 36 Elisha Mathewson Road, N. Scituate, RI 02857
 Phone: 401-934-3677 Email: jheston@verizon.net***

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Agresource, Inc.

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Tim Gould, Guy Travers
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Allen's Seed Store, Inc.

693 S. County Trail, Exeter, RI 02822
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Michelle Maltais - (401) 835-0287

The Andersons Technologies, Inc.

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Rick Forni - (413) 534-8896

Atlantic Silica, Inc.

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(902) 883-3020

A-OK Turf Equipment Inc.

1357 Main St., Coventry, RI 02816-8435
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Bruce Chapman, Territory Manager
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Emerald, Insignia, Pendulum AquaCap, Curalan, Drive, Basagran, Iprodione Pro, Propiconazole Pro, Bifenethrin Pro, Plateau, Sahara.
John Bresnahan - (413) 374-4102

The Borden Company

114 Summer St., Maynard, MA 01754
Bulk limestone dealer.
Jack Borden - (978) 897-2571

Boston Irrigation Supply Co. (BISCO)

60 Stergis Way, Dedham, MA 02026
Distributor, irrigation supplies & accessories, featuring Rain Bird.
Andrew Langlois, Jay Anderson III, Dan Fuller, Jeff Brown, Greg Hennessy, Chris Russo
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David Mihailides - (401) 742-1177

DHT Golf Services

8 Meadow Park Road, Plymouth, MA 02360
Serving the GCSANE for over 20 years.
Planning to proposal to completion.
Golf construction and irrigation consulting.
Emergency irrigation repairs.
Dahn Tibbett (20 year member), Jaime Tibbett
508-746-3222 DHTGOLF.COM

G. Fialkosky Lawn Sprinklers

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Irrigation services to golf courses throughout New England. Gary Fialkosky - (617) 293-8632

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Greg Albanese - (781) 789-1166

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(508) 428-3022

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