



# THE NEWSLETTER

February 2010

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.

## James Fitzroy, CGCS Elected President of GCSAA for 2010



The annual meeting was held in conjunction with the **GCSAA Education Conference** (Feb. 8-12) and **Golf Industry Show** (Feb. 10-11) in San Diego. Fitzroy will serve until the 2011 annual meeting and election. Fitzroy is a 43-year GCSAA member, and has been at Wollaston Recreational Facility/Presidents Golf Course since 1975. Previously, he was superintendent at Pleasant Valley Country Club in Sutton, Mass., and Cazenovia (N.Y.) Country Club. He earned an associate's degree in turf management

from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts in 1967 and a bachelor's degree in park administration from Massachusetts in 1970. Fitzroy serves on The Environmental Institute for Golf Board of Trustees and he is a member and past president of the GCSA of New England. He also holds membership in the Golf Course Managers Association of Cape Cod, as well as the Rhode Island GCSA. ❖

**James R. Fitzroy, CGCS**, director/superintendent at Wollaston Recreational Facility/Presidents Golf Club in North Quincy, Mass., was elected president of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) at the association's annual meeting Feb. 12.



Pictured above (L-R): Mike Hermanson, Jim Fitzroy, CGCS and Bob Ruszala

Pictured to Left (L-R): Jim Fitzroy, CGCS was presented with a watch by Mike Hermanson in honor of becoming GCSAA President.

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# President's Message

This year's March meeting will take place on March 31 at Andover Country Club. While it is not a regular meeting of GCSANE, the New England Golf Summit is a collaborative effort by all Massachusetts golf organizations to provide information to club members regarding some of the challenges facing the game. I feel very fortunate that GCSANE was asked to help out and we have put together a great breakout session on Water Best Management Practices. Jim Skorulski, Dr. Nathaniel Mitkowski, and Duane LeVangie from the Mass DEP Water Management Program will be presenting on regulations, plant responses, and strategies for providing quality conditions. Please go to [www.negolfsummit.org](http://www.negolfsummit.org) to review the agenda, featured speakers, and to register for the event. GCSANE will not be taking reservations or billing for the event. GCSAA has approved 0.35 Education credits for the event and I hope all can attend.

Some things you should know about during the coming month:

- If you are interested in joining a GCSANE Committee please contact me or the Board member who is Chairing the committee. It is a great way to volunteer your time and see what happens behind the scenes at GCSANE.

- Speaking of board service... Congrats to Jim Fitzroy on being elected President of GCSAA. It is quite an honor to have one of our own in the oval office out in Kansas. NERTF Conference and Show ([www.nertf.org](http://www.nertf.org)) is right around the corner. It a must attend event with great education and trade show. As many of you know this is the main avenue for funding turfgrass research so take some time thanking all the vendors who are on the floor, directors of the foundation, and Gary Sykes for all his hard work getting this all together.
- Time is running out to complete your membership form for the 2010 Directory. If you haven't done so please go the website or visit Sharon in the GCSANE booth at the NERTF show.
- The 2009 Pesticide Use Report is now on the GCSANE website. It is located under Docs...Regulation. The report is due to the state by May 15<sup>th</sup>.

Until next month, may the simple pleasures of life including good friends, family, health, happiness and peace be with you and your families. ❖

Patrick Daly, CGCS  
GCSANE President

**Save the date...**

## Rhode Island Turfgrass Foundation Golf Tournament

**Tuesday, April 27, 2010**

**Agawam Hunt**

**Host: Drew Cummins**

# Recapping the 2010 Education Conference

The GCSAA Education Conference continues to be a vital resource for the golf industry as approximately 4,730 seats were filled for 99 seminars. Content for the seminars focused on the professional development of attendees, including agronomy, business management, communication, environmental management and leadership. More than 40 additional hours of panel discussions, sessions and forums that touched on such subjects as the nation's economy, diversity, media/public relations, etc., were offered as well.

"The GCSAA Education Conference continues to be the best venue for golf course superintendents to keep abreast of the latest trends in golf course management," Fitzroy said. "I think it says a great deal about the passion our members have for education and their facilities that they travel from all corners of the nation to spend three days in seminar rooms."

One of the highlights from the GCSAA Education Conference was the 16th annual **Collegiate Turf Bowl Competition** presented in partnership with John Deere Golf, won by the Iowa State University team of Nick Dunlap, Tyler Dykstra, Bryan Huinker and Caleb Swanson. It is the 10th title for Iowa State in the last 12 years, as the Cyclones take home the traveling trophy and a \$4,000 first-place cash prize. Teams from Massachusetts (2nd), Purdue (3rd, 4th, 6th), Penn State (5th, 9th), Minnesota-Crookston (7th), Cal Poly Pomona (8th) and Rutgers (10th) rounded out the top 10, as 67 teams from 31 colleges and universities participated in the competition. The Turf Bowl challenged students from universities/institutions to identify turfgrass species, diseases, weeds, and insects, as well as answer questions on mathematics, growth, and development. The exam also allowed teams to collaborate for the case study portion and submit an essay that addressed business management facets of the golf course superintendent profession, while emphasizing the importance of communication skills.

GCSAA member **Adam Hess**, assistant superintendent at Augusta Pines Golf Club in Spring, Texas, fired

a two-day total of 1-over-par 145 to win a playoff victory in his first GCSAA National Championship at PGA West's Greg Norman Course in La Quinta, Calif., Feb. 7. The GCSAA National Championship and Golf Classic is presented in partnership with The Toro Co.

**Simran Sethi**, an award-winning environmental journalist and journalism professor at the University of Kansas inspired a large crowd at the opening session – Celebrate GCSAA! with Mark D. Kuhns, CGCS, presented in partnership with Syngenta – with a keynote presentation about sustainability that framed a major point of emphasis from the week-long conference that featured an environmental session "**Exploring Golf's Carbon Footprint**" presented in partnership with the Propane Education and Research Council, and GCSAA's announcement of its sustainability initiative with The Environmental Institute for Golf, "**Drive Toward Sustainability.**"

Hess was recognized at Celebrate GCSAA! along with the other annual award winners:

- **Old Tom Morris Award** (GCSAA's highest honor), awarded to World Golf Hall of Fame member **Judy Rankin**
- **GCSAA/Golf Digest Environmental Leaders in Golf Awards**, presented in partnership with Rain Bird and Syngenta, awarded to: overall and national resort winner **Terry Stratton**, GCSAA Class A superintendent at Little River (Calif.) Inn Golf and Tennis. National public winner **Jim Brown**, CGCS, Newport Dunes Golf Club, Port Aransas, Texas. National private winner **Roger Stewart**, CGCS, TPC Twin Cities, Blaine, Minn. International winner **Brett Morris**, Ph.D., GCSAA international superintendent member, Sea Temple Golf Club, Port Douglas, Queensland, Australia
- **GCSAA Excellence in Government Relations Awards**, awarded to: advocacy winner Carolinas Golf Course Superintendents Association. Advocacy winner **Michael Crawford**, CGCS, TPC Sugarloaf, Duluth, Ga. Compliance winner **Richard Gagnon**, GCSAA Class A superin-

tendent, Segregansett Country Club, Taunton, Mass.

- **GCSAA Colonel John Morley Distinguished Service Awards**  
**Robert A. Dickison**, CGCS, Upper Montclair Country Club, Clifton, N.J.  
**James C. Husting**, CGCS, Woodbridge (Calif.) Golf and Country Club, GCSAA Class A member  
**Douglas W. Petersan**, consultant with Austin Golf Club, Spicewood, Texas.
- **GCSAA President's Award for Environmental Stewardship**, awarded to **Anthony Williams**, CGCS, Stone Mountain (Ga.) by Marriott
- **GCSAA Leo Feser Award**, awarded to **Steve Hackmann**, GCSAA Class A superintendent, Pryor Creek Golf Club, Huntley, Mont.

**The 2011 GCSAA Education Conference is scheduled for Feb. 7-11, held in conjunction with the 2011 Golf Industry Show, Feb. 9-10 in Orlando.**

*continued on page 4*

**GOLF QUIZ**  
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New England Golf Course  
Superintendents agree  
upon?

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# GCSANE Proposed Bylaw Amendments

The following Bylaw Amendments are being proposed in accordance with Article XIII, Section 1 of the GCSANE Constitution and Bylaws. These proposed bylaws will be voted on at the March 2010 Regular Meeting. They may be passed by a two-thirds vote of the regular members present at that meeting.

## Article V Government

### Currently Reads:

#### SECTION 1

The Officers of the Association shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer elected as provided in Article VI. All officers of the Association shall also be Class A or B members of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America.

### Proposed Bylaw Change:

#### SECTION 1

The Officers of the Association shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer elected as provided in Article VI. All officers of the Association shall also be a Class A member or Superintendent Member of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America.

### Currently Reads:

#### SECTION 2

The Association shall be governed by a Board of Directors consisting of the aforementioned officers, four Trustees, the Chairman of the Finance Committee, Educational Committee, Golf Committee, Newsletter Committee and the Immediate Past President, all of whom shall be Class A members of the Association and a majority of whom shall be Class A or B members of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America. They shall be elected for a term of one year, excepting the Trustees. The Affiliate Trustee shall

be a member of good standing of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of New England.

### Proposed Bylaw Change:

The Association shall be governed by a Board of Directors consisting of the aforementioned officers, four Trustees, the Chairman of the Finance Committee, Educational Committee, Golf Committee, Newsletter Committee and the Immediate Past President, all of whom shall be Class A members of the Association and a majority of whom shall be a Class A member or Superintendent Member of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America. They shall be elected for a term of one year, excepting the Trustees. The Affiliate Trustee shall be a member of good standing of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of New England.

**Article IV, Membership, Section 1. Members, Paragraph 1:** Change "himself" to "him or herself" and change "him" to "him or her" ❖

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GCSAA is a leading golf organization and has as its focus golf course management. Since 1926, GCSAA has been the top professional association for the men and women who manage golf courses in the United States and worldwide. From its headquarters in Lawrence, Kan., the association provides education, information and representation to more than 20,000 members in more than 72 countries. GCSAA's mission is to serve its members, advance their profession and enhance the enjoyment, growth and vitality of the game of golf. The association's philanthropic organization,

**The Environmental Institute for Golf,** works to strengthen the compatibility of golf with the natural environment through research grants, support for education programs and outreach efforts. Visit GCSAA at [www.gcsaa.org](http://www.gcsaa.org). ❖

**Source: GCSAA Press Release**



# Approaching The Eleventh Hour

By Adam Moeller, Agronomist

With the end of February on the horizon, many golfers are beginning to feel the itch, and cabin fever is setting in. Soon, golf courses across the region will be in spring cleanup mode in preparation for the 2010 golf season. For turf managers, however, the transition from winter to spring can be a source of stress and concern. We are not out of the woods with respect to winter injury.

In some parts of the Northeast Region (primarily New Jersey), record snowfall has left turf managers curious about the efficacy of snow mold applications. Mild gray snow mold outbreaks generally occur after 40-60 days of snow cover, while more severe outbreaks are likely after 60 days. If snow cover hasn't approached these thresholds, damage still is possible from pink snow mold, which doesn't require snow cover -- just cool, wet conditions. Excessively wet conditions

in the spring from the melting snow could lead to more pink snow mold outbreaks. If gray or pink snow mold outbreaks occur, the pathogen injures the leaves, but it is not reported to affect roots and crowns. The damage is primarily cosmetic, and the turf will grow out from the damage in time.

Melting snow and ice from greens, fairways, or tees is a greater concern. If a rapid drop in temperature occurs during the melt process, freeze injury may occur. This injury, commonly referred to as crown hydration, is the most common form of winter injury in the Northeast Region, and occurs most often in late February to early March. Most of the controllable factors for preventing crown hydration (i.e. maximizing carbohydrate storage) should already have been in place, but a few things can still be done to help prevent injury:

- Do not remove snow or ice unless you are concerned with a lack of oxygen (anoxia) or a good warming trend is predicted. Encouraging melt can result in more freeze-thaw cycles, so do not remove the snow cover unless the weather cooperates.
- Create drainage channels within snow-covered greens to ease water movement off the area. Completely removing all the snow will help the greens be free of water from melting snow, but the snow's insulating benefits can be advantageous, especially if significant temperature drops occurs. If snow has been removed, be sure it is not piled at the low side of greens where it would create a dam and cause water to flow back onto the green. Also, do not pile snow on

*continued on page 7*

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# 16th Annual Collegiate Turf Bowl Competition

I am very proud to announce that the students who competed in the turf bowl 4 years ago have started a tremendous legacy. This year UMass had 4 teams, 3 full and one brave soul took on the competition by himself. Our teams came in 2nd, \$2,000 prize, 15th, 21 and our solo came in 27th out of 69 teams. We should all be very proud and grateful to the hard work of the students and especially the advisers that organized and prepared them.

Congratulations!  
Steve Curry



**Pictured Above:**

**Front row in the blue Stockbridge shirts from left to right: Derek Belanger, Edward Coffin, Shawn Wynn, Scott St.Pierre, William Crosby**

**Back row in all red UMass shirts from left to right: Timothy Kaija\*, Royal Healy, Michael McCormick, Noah Goldstein\*, Robert Fitzgerald\*, Alex Brooks\*, Lisa Golden, Eric Cronin**

**\* the 4 students with the stars next to names are the ones that placed 2nd in the competition**



# Introducing Green Golf USA

[GreenGolfUSA](#), presented by [EnviroLogic Resources, Inc.](#), is an environmental stewardship website that provides a FREE, easy-to-use tool for creating Integrated Pest Management Plans and documenting Best Management Practices at golf courses. The IPM Plan development tool works with drop-down menus and fill-in-the blanks to allow you to create an integrated pest management plan that accurately reflects the golf course conditions and standard of care. Action thresholds, a primary basis for the IPM approach, are customizable to the way you operate. The result is an IPM Plan that makes sense for your golf course. The BMP Generator allows you to select from a menu of best management practices to document how you manage the golf course.

GreenGolfUSA recently updated the weed database to include the major turfgrass weeds found all over the US. Updates to the fungus and insect databases are coming soon. The tools

are customizable so that you are able to add any pests, weeds, diseases, or pesticides that are not currently in the database to your IPM Plan. The data you enter are saved at the GreenGolfUSA server, so when we complete updates you can update your documents with only a few keystrokes.

A [case history](#) has been uploaded to the Environmental Institute for Golf website that describes the experiences of some of the golf course superintendents that have used GreenGolfUSA, and, you can see a short discussion about the Oregon GCSA Environmental Stewardship Guidelines and GreenGolfUSA on [GCSAA TV](#). These tools were initially developed to support implementation of the Oregon GCSA Environmental Stewardship Guidelines, prepared in partnership with Northwest Turfgrass Association and Western Washington GCSA. Check out GreenGolfUSA's newsletter, [The Green Piece](#), for timely news and links. Other stewardship resources are

also being made available so register and surf the website! For more information you can contact Tom Calabrese at [tom@greengolfusa.com](mailto:tom@greengolfusa.com). ❖



## **USGA Update-continued from page 5**

- the high side of greens, where melting snow would run onto the surface.
- Address tree shade issues. More sunlight improves turf health leading into winter and during the growing season, hastens snow/ice melting, and provides a growing environment more conducive to seedling germination and establishment in the event that damage does occur.
  - When in doubt, bring some turf plugs inside and incubate them so you can examine turf health. Communicate the results (good or bad) to course officials as soon as possible.

Educational conferences are a great way to learn more about winter injury and numerous other topics for golf course maintenance. The Canadian International Turfgrass Conference and Trade Show is scheduled for February 26th through March 2nd. USGA Agronomists Bob Vavrek, Larry Gilhuly and I will take part in a panel discussion addressing current issues, problem areas, and new opportunities for turf managers and golf course management on February 28th. Later that day, I will present grass options for greens, tees, and fairways. The New England Regional Turfgrass Conference and Show is scheduled for early March and is another great educational opportunity for turf managers and course officials. A USGA educational session is

scheduled for Tuesday, March 2nd, covering many diverse topics, including winter injury. ❖

*USGA agronomists can provide insightful and invaluable information involving all areas of golf course maintenance to help maximize turf health, playability, and efficiency. Contact Dave Oatis, director [doatis@usga.org](mailto:doatis@usga.org) ; Adam Moeller, agronomist [amoeller@usga.org](mailto:amoeller@usga.org) ; or Jim Skorulski, senior agronomist [jskorulski@usga.org](mailto:jskorulski@usga.org) for a Turf Advisory Service visit this season.*

# A Letter of Thanks

I would like to thank everyone who supported the Nor'easter Hospitality Room held at the Hilton Bay Front Hotel on February 10th, 2010. We had a nice turn out. Mike Hermanson, past president of GCSANE, presented newly elected GCSAA President Jim Fitzroy CGCS with a nice gift. Jim spoke for a while and thanked everyone for their support of him in his election process.

We also had in attendance current GCSAA president Mark Kuhns CGCS and current GCSAA Director John O'Keefe CGCS. The hotel staff did a nice job with the room. The food and **hors d'oeuvres were very tasty and lasted most of the night. Special thanks also goes to John Bresnahan of BASF who let us borrow his computer and video screen for the slide show presentation thanking all the sponsors. Thanks also goes out to Andy Drohen of Agrium who helped put the slide show together. The following Friends and Superintendent Associations sponsored this room and I would want to thank them very much. We appreciate everyone's support!**

## **The Friends are:**

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## **Golf Course Superintendent Associations:**

**Golf Course Manager's Association of Cape Cod  
Connecticut Association of Golf Course Superintendents  
Long Island Golf Course Superintendents Association  
Maine Golf Course Superintendents Association  
Metropolitan Golf Course Superintendents Association  
Golf Course Superintendents Association of New England  
Golf Course Superintendents Association of New Jersey  
Rhode Island Golf Course Superintendents Association  
Vermont Golf Course Superintendents Association**

We look forward to next year's Nor'easter hospitality room in Orlando, February 2011. Any ideas or ways we can improve this night, let me know.

Sincerely,

**Bob Ruzala**  
Chairman





## ASSOCIATED PROGRAMS



**PGA**  
New England Section



**FRANCIS OUIMET**  
SCHOLARSHIP FUND



The New England Golf Summit is a one-day event that will feature a keynote address and informative breakout sessions that will address current challenges surrounding the game and help club personnel and club officials better prepare for the upcoming golf season.

Highlighting the program of events will be dynamic keynote speaker **Henry DeLozier from Global Golf Advisors.**

### WHERE

Andover Country Club (Andover, Massachusetts)

### WHEN

Wednesday, March 31, 2010

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. (including the Networking Reception)

### SPECIAL GCSANE BREAKOUT SESSION

Water Best Management Practices: Regulations, Plant Response, and Strategies for Providing Quality Conditions for the Future

#### Session Led by

Jim Skorulski, *Northeast Region Senior Agronomist, USGA*  
Dr. Nathaniel Mitkowski, *Associate Professor of Plant Pathology, URI*  
Duane LeVangie, *Program Chief, Mass DEP Water Management Program*

Other Breakout Sessions to Address... Growth of the Game, Player Development, Industry Trends and Golf & the Economy

### SUMMIT FEATURES

Online Registration, Networking Luncheon & Reception, Dynamic Breakout Sessions, Continuing Education Points and Event Web Site

### REGISTRATION

Online registration is available online at [www.negolfsummit.org](http://www.negolfsummit.org).

The cost per attendee is \$40.

All questions can be directed to [info@mgalinks.org](mailto:info@mgalinks.org).

**SUMMIT NOTICE:**  
**Superintendents will receive 0.35 GCSAA education credits for attending**



Thank you for registering for the 2010 New England Golf Summit. We are looking forward to a successful and informative event. Please complete the following registration form and remit payment (\$40 per person) in full to:

Massachusetts Golf Association  
300 Arnold Palmer Boulevard  
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P: 774-430-9100 • F: 774-430-9101  
info@mgalinks.org • www.negolfsummit.org

Attendee 1

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Our condolences are extended to Jim Santoro and family on the unexpected passing of Jim's brother Arthur "Danny" Santoro who passed away on February 26, 2010.

Our condolences are extended to Chuck Bramhall and family on the recent passing of Chuck's father Richard Bramhall on March 1, 2010.

Our condolences are extended to Mark and Susan Richard on the passing of Susan's mother Marion Antonelli on March 3, 2010.

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.

Welcome to a new tool to help link students and employers. This is a new web site called GreenJobsNE.org. This was developed in the spring of 2009 by Brian Maynard (URI Plant Sciences faculty) and Thomas Briggs (URI Computer Sciences student). The site offers employers a place to post jobs, internships and volunteer opportunities and a place for students to post their contact information and resumes. Presently all jobs and resume postings are approved by Brian Maynard. This is not just a tool for Rhode Island students and employers which is why we named it GreenJobs New England. Please feel free to try out GreenJobsNE.org and direct any comments or questions to Brian Maynard (401-874-5372 or [bmaynard@uri.edu](mailto:bmaynard@uri.edu)).

**CALENDAR**

**March 31:**  
**New England Golf Summit**  
 Andover Country Club  
 Host: Wayne LaCroix, CGCS  
 To register, please visit:  
[www.negolfsummit.org](http://www.negolfsummit.org)

**April 26:**  
**GCSANE Monthly Meeting**  
 9-Hole Meeting  
 Lexington Golf Club  
 Host: Robert Dembek

**May 19:**  
**GCSANE Monthly Meeting**  
 Joint meeting w/ GCSACC –Bear Cup  
**Poquoy Brook Golf Club**  
 Hosts: Charlie Dickow and Mark Pendergast

**June 28:**  
**GCSANE S&B Tournament**  
 Belmont Country Club  
 Host: Michael Rose

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

□1/6 page (vertical; 2.375" wide x 4.5" deep)	□\$150.00	□\$570.00	□\$810.00	□\$1080.00	□\$1500.00
□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](mailto:jheston@verizon.net)***

