



THE NEWSLETTER

October 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.

GCSAA 2010 Delegates Report

By Michael Stachowicz

The weekend of October 23rd and 24th, delegates from associations across the country gathered in a Kansas City Airport hotel to hear about the direction of the GCSAA, what innovative chapters were doing, and interview candidates for board positions at GCSAA.

There are some neat concepts and figures coming out of headquarters. The amount of budget cutbacks they have had to do has been remarkable (close to 25%); but while we have a pretty steady membership with a 95% retention rate, the Golf Industry and Show is a huge part (40%) of the our association's revenue and that certainly decreased in this economy. Despite those cutbacks, there seems to have been little effect on member products and services. The association is in good financial shape because we own the building outright in Lawrence and there is a \$6.7 million dollar reserve. While this seems like a large number, I believe it is a sensible amount. This is not only the rainy day fund, this is also the fund that is used to launch new programs and initiatives. The board does not want this to go below \$5 million...and with that being between a quarter and a third of the overall budget it seems prudent.

That being said, one of the big controversies at the meeting was the 6.3% (\$20 per member) dues increase. This proposed increase stays true to the idea set forth a few years ago that dues should be small, regular, and tied to the Consumer Price Index. It seems

large this year because it has been three years since the last increase due to the board voting to postpone a dues increase during a recession. As the GCSANE Delegate, I can tell you that I am very confident in how the board and the staff handle the finances and will support the dues increase unless instructed by individuals to apply their votes to the no column.

There are two new candidates running for the board Rafael Barajas and Mike Wooten. The other contested race is for Secretary/Treasurer between Pat Finlen and Keith Ihms. If any GCSANE members know any of the candidates and would like to comment to me and help formulate our voting strategies, it would be welcome.

As many of you might already be aware of, GCSAA is starting a field staff program. This program places a GCSAA representative in one of nine regions across the country. Field staff have been in place for a few years in Florida and Michigan and the response from associations in those areas has been overwhelmingly positive. The field staff have been very helpful to associations when it comes to governance and strategic planning, good at member recruitment, and providing help with GCSAA programs and services. With the budget being as tight as it is, I don't believe the Northeast's field staff position will be filled for a few years.

There is a big push at the national when it comes to a program called "Golf's Drive to Sustainability". This

program is still in its infancy and is the result of the rest of the golf industry looking to GCSAA to become golf's environmental leader. The program's biggest achievement so far has been the environmental baseline survey that has been completed over the past few years. Going forward they want to certify golf courses (similar to Audubon... which will be a part of the program) but tie such certifications to budget savings through some business opportunities (i.e. insurance premium reductions).

GCSAA is involved in a lot of golf industry programs that are designed to grow the game and to put golf in a good position politically. These programs include Golf 20/20, Get Golf Ready, We Are Golf, and First Tee. One idea that seems very important is that golf clubs need to be seen as a small business...for example there are 15,000 McDonalds in the country and 16,000 Golf Courses. The economic impact of golf is greater than the movie industry. The overwhelming majority of golf rounds played are public courses. The goal is to get rid of this elitist label, define us as a small business, but at the same time let it be known that overall we are a business that economically consequential.

Another program that has been started is called the Affinity Program. This looks to give members discounts with companies for the course (auto

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GCSANE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Chapter Delegates - continued from page 1

parts, office supplies) and personal (Nike will sell to members at 5% above wholesale). It looks promising and a good way to justify membership dues. More information will be forthcoming.

Government Relations had a large presence at the meeting. There are some very ridiculous regulations working their way through local governments across the country. Most of it seems to be centered on water use and quality. There is no doubt that water regulations are in our future. The foundation is being laid by local governments to eventually tax and control water use. The message helped solidify GCSANE's belief that Government Relations Committee and the lobbying firm we have hired to represent our industry are important. There are many associations across the country scrambling to put together a similar framework to what GCSANE instituted years ago.

Going into the delegate's meeting, news about the CEO departure was on the forefront of many delegates' minds. The board was very tight lipped about the circumstances surrounding Mark Woodward's departure as they did not want to put the association in a legally tenuous position. But they did answer questions about the new search and what was learned from the last search. President Fitzroy is very pleased at the quality of resumes that he has received so far.

The state of our association is strong. It is a dynamic association always trying to find a way to reach members, provide new services, and make current services more accessible. Please feel free to contact me with any question or comments concerning the association...I am a representative and with feedback I can do a better job. ❖

GCSANE Member/Guest Tournament

October 18, 2010

Charles River Country Club

Host: Paul Blanus

First Gross: 78 Brad MacDonald and Patrick Lange
Second Gross: 79 Jim Mahoney and William Cohen
Third Gross: 79 Keith Tortorella and Kevin Welby

First Net 66: Steve Murphy and George Stack
Second Net 68: Jack McNulty and Joseph Piperato
Third Net 69: Mike Hermanson and Tom Richard

Closest to the Pin
Hole 4 Robert Yeomans
Hole 14 Carl Miner
Long Drive
Greg Caron

Thanks to Paul Blanus and his staff for the fantastic course conditions.

Thanks to Lou Bettencourt, Garret Whitney and Keith Tortorella for their help with registration.

President's Message

October is almost over and preparation for the winter is in full swing. Aerification, small projects, and early orders are filling our days as frosts signify the end of a challenging year. We'll begin work on budgets for 2011 soon, reviewing management practices from 2010 and seeing how we all can do things more efficiently next year. Many will also perform staff reviews, rating performance versus expectations from the prior year and setting goals for next year. Don't be afraid to do a self assessment of your performance as well during this time. We can all do things better, whether it's in your professional or personal life, and you might be surprised how a frank assessment of your own performance can lead to better things in the years to come.

I hope you are finding time to spend away from work and get reacquainted with friends and family (there is a running joke amongst my friends at home about when "Winter" Pat reappears!) Personally I find nothing more enjoyable than the look on my children's faces when they come into my room early on a weekend morning and find me still in bed. Moments like this make me remember to appreciate the

little things in life. I hope you do as well.

The Member-Guest was successfully held at Charles River on October 18th. Paul Blanus and his staff presented a great golf course for us that day. I only wish my game was up to the challenge on one of the better tracks in the Boston area. Thanks to Paul for hosting.

The 4th Annual Assistant Superintendent Tournament was held at Franklin Country Club on October 20. Thanks to Mike Luccini and Trent Lynch for hosting the Assistants, where from what I heard the greens were firm and fast and in fabulous shape. Thanks also go out to Dave Stowe, Dave Johnson, and Rob McNeil for organizing a fun day for the people who do so much to support us during the season.

Some things you should know about over the coming months:

- It's never too early to start thinking about nominating a worthy member for the 2011 Distinguished Service Award. Please review the notification in the newsletter and send your nomination to Membership Chairman Rich Gagnon.

- Our next golf event is the Fall 9 hole meeting. We'll be at Jack Hasset's club this November so please make sure to come out to Mount Pleasant to spend time with friends for a little golf and education.

- The Assistant Superintendent initiation has been waived again for 2010. The Board believes that this Association offers each Assistant an avenue for education and builds camaraderie for their future as Golf Course Superintendents. Membership applications can be found on the website under the "Membership" tab or by calling Sharon.

As always, special thanks to Julie Heston for all her hard work on making the Newsletter happen. 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

UMASS Turf Management Internship Fair November 17, 2010

Date: Wednesday November 17th

Time: 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Location: Room 105–French Hall -
University of Massachusetts,
Amherst, MA

The UMass Turf Program will be holding an internship fair for first year students on Wednesday, 17 November, in French Hall Room 105 on the UMass Amherst campus. The session will begin at 6:00 pm and will run until 8:00 pm. All current freshmen will be required to attend, and invitations will be extended to other turf students in both the two-year and four-year programs.

We anticipate that there will be at least 40 students in attendance.

This is a great opportunity for turf managers to meet our students and speak to them about internship positions. If you are unable to attend, you can send us an electronic file with the pertinent information for the internship(s) you are looking to fill. We will make those files available to the students who attend the session.

Pizza and refreshments will be provided.

If you are able to attend in person, please RSVP to Michelle DaCosta (413-545-2547; mdacosta@psis.umass.edu) by Friday November 12, 2010.

Location details: French Hall– 230 Stockbridge Road, Amherst, MA 01003.

Parking is available adjacent to building and in nearby parking lots.

Visit http://www.umass.edu/umhome/visit_campus.html for maps and driving directions.

Call for Nominations - 2011 GCSANE Distinguished Service Award

By Rich Gagnon

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of New England (GCSANE) annually selects an individual or individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to the advancement of the golf course superintendent's profession. This is your chance to nominate a fellow GCSANE member that you feel is worthy of the Distinguished Service Award for the year 2011. The nominee must not have been a recipient of this award in the preceding ten years. The Membership Committee welcomes recommendations for nomination.

To propose a candidate for this program, please submit a letter of recommendation to the Membership Committee Chair. The letter should summarize the candidate's contributions and leadership to the superintendent community both locally and nationally.

The GCSANE membership committee will recommend a recipient to the GCSANE Board of Directors to be awarded at the Annual meeting in January 2011. Nominations must be received by **December 1, 2010**.

Submit nominations to:

Rich Gagnon
Membership Chair, GCSANE
Segregansett Country Club
85 Gulliver St.
Taunton, MA, 02780
sccturf@hotmail.com

Past Award Winners

1997 – Anthony Caranci

1998 – Richard D. Haskell

1999 – Robert Grant

2000 – Dr. Joseph Troll

2001 – Geoffrey Cornish

**2002 – Richard C. Blake and
Phillip I. Cassidy**

2003 – Leon St. Pierre

2004 – Donald C. Hearn

2005- Donald Marrone

2006 – Gerry Finn

2007- Ronald Kirkman

2008- Robert Ruzsala

**2009- Robert and Norman
Mucciarone**

2010- Brian Cowan



Alumni Turf Group Honors Don Hearn, CGCS

By Michael Stachowicz

This past September, University of Massachusetts alumni, industry representatives, and friends gathered to honor Don Hearn, CGCS at Fenway Golf Club. This was the seventh annual Joseph Troll Turf Classic which is run annually by the Alumni Turf Group.

Although the event was rained out after 9 holes, the food, the service, the course, and the camaraderie was lauded by attendees. The praise also extended to the honoree as several speakers talk about Hearn's career which included stints at some of the best course in Massachusetts and gave back to the industry through service as the President of GCSANE and the GCSAA. Speakers included ATG President Steve Curry, longtime friend and ATG Board Member Michael Hermandson, Dean Steve Goodwin from the University, and letters from the

Trolls (who have recently moved to Florida) and GCSAA President Jim Fitzroy.

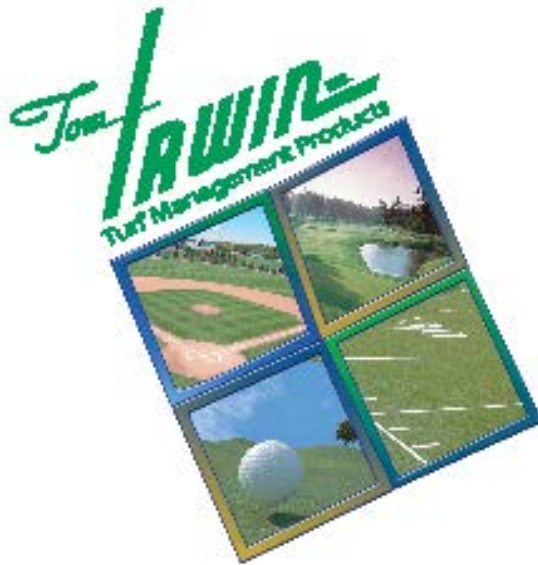
This event raised a little over \$25,000. This will be added to the already large pot that ATG has grown for the University over the past seven years. With this year's success and matching funds from the state, this endowment is worth well over \$150,000. The purpose of the endowment is to help the UMass Turf Program in ways that traditional funding sources may not be able to. ATG has used funds from this endowment to provide research assistants, support turf farm operations and staff, and promote field day.

The mood at the turf program is one of excitement. There is some great research concerning dollarspot resistance, some early plant breeding

activity, irrigation efficiency, drought tolerance, and ET development and uses. These projects will provide useful information that is very practical and useful in the field.

Those of us who are alumni should be proud of our alma mater. The faculty and staff are great to work with and are well respected in the industry.

❖



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Jeff Houde 203-731-1776
Brian Luccini 781-799-9450
Chris Kneale 860-539-1516

11 A Street Burlington MA 781-273-0143

Golf Update - New England Championship Tournament And Met Championship Tournament Results

Here are the teams that represented GCSANE at the Met and New England Superintendent Championships.

We finished respectably in both events, a solid top of the middle of the pack finish each day, only one shot out of 4th place at the Lake of Isles. I think the sentiment was that at least we beat the Cape guys each day.

The Lake of Isles team for the 16th annual New England Superintendents Championship was: Len Curtin, Matt Lapinski, Robert Barnicle, Ken Crimmings, Dave Stowe, Jeff James, Pat Hogan and Tim Berge. The first 5 holes were played in a heavy down-pour, with the balance of holes completed in drizzle and finally a peek of sunshine for the last 2 holes.

The team that played The Bridge Club in the Met Championship was: Brian Skinner, Kurt Calderwood, Dave Wallace, Robert McNeil, Pat Hogan, Ernie Ketchum, Mark Gagne and David Stowe. *(See next page for Met Champs Results)*

Thanks to all who made the trips and played in the crazy rain in Connecticut. ❖

David A. Stowe CGCS
Golf Chairman

New England Superintendent's Championship Results Lake of Isle Wednesday, October 6, 2010



Connecticut	147
Cape Cod	143
New England	136
Vermont	136
New Hampshire	135
Rhode Island	125

Sponsors

Gordon Kauffman – Robin Hayes	45
Brian Giblin – Mark Mansur	33
Fred Montgomery – Melissa Gugliotti	23
Frank Savakis – John Ruzsbatzky	31

Closest to Pin

#2	George Fairbanks 3'6"
#7	Robin Hayes 7'5"
#11	Todd Olovson 9'9"
#16	Steve Gregg 19'1"

NHGCSA TURF EDUCATION CONFERENCE



Holiday Inn ♦ Concord, NH

Wednesday, December 1, 2010

The Program

- 7:30 - 8:30 *NHGCSA Annual Meeting*
- 8:40 - 8:45 *Welcome* — Rod Blake, NHGCSA President
- 8:45 - 9:45 *Common and New Emerging Insect Pests: Management and strategies* — Dr. Stan Swier, University of New Hampshire
- 9:50 - 10:50 *Pesticides: Their use in human, animal and plant health, relationships to everyday toxins, and potential harm to the environment* — Dr. Joe Vargas, Michigan State University
- 10:50 - 11:00 **BREAK**
- 11:00 - 12:00 *Are Golf Courses Just for Golfers? A new look at the ecological role of golf courses within local ecosystems* — Dr. Eric Berry, St. Anselm College
- 12:00 - 1:00 **LUNCH**
- 1:00 - 2:00 *PGRs and Biostimulants for Turf Managers* — Dr. Erik Emrik, Virginia Tech
- 2:00 - 3:00 *N.H. Division of Pesticide Control "Current Events"* — David Rousseau, Director, N.H. Division of Pesticide Control

4 Pesticide Credits Approved ♦ .5 GCSAA CEU Credits Approved
 Note: You may also REGISTER and PAY online at www.nhgcsa.org.

Mail registration with check to: NHGCSA c/o Chris Nagy, 231 Main Street, Farmington, NH 03835
 or register and pay at www.nhgcsa.org

REGISTRATION FORM: TURF EDUCATION CONFERENCE — DECEMBER 1, 2010

<p>REGISTRATION:</p> <p><u>Register and pay before Nov. 26th:</u></p> <p>NHGCSA Member ▶ \$ 55.00</p> <p>Non-Member ▶ \$ 65.00</p> <p><u>Pay at the door:</u></p> <p>NHGCSA Member ▶ \$ 65.00</p> <p>Non-Member ▶ \$ 75.00</p> <p><i>Registration Fee is non-refundable. Price includes lunch.</i></p> <p>NHGCSA Member: Will you attend the annual meeting? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	<p>Name: _____</p> <p>Name: _____</p> <p>Name: _____</p> <p>Club / Company: _____</p> <p>Phone # _____ E-Mail _____</p> <p># Attending x \$55 = \$_____ # Attending x \$65 = \$_____ Total \$ _____</p>
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THE NEWSLETTER 2010 DISPLAY ADVERTISING ORDER FORM

Company Name: _____

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Amount of Check: _____ (Made payable to "GCSANE")

<u>Member Rates:</u>	Monthly Rate	4 Times Per Yr. (Save 5%)	6 Times Per Yr. (Save 10%)	8 Times Per Yr. (Save 10%)	Annual Rate (Save 15%)
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<input type="checkbox"/> 1/2 page (horizontal; 7.5" wide x 5" deep)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 570.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 810.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1080.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1530.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Full Page (vertical; 7.5" wide x 10" deep)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$200.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 760.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1080.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1440.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$2040.00

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

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File Specifications for Ads Supplied in Digital Format: Ads may be sent either by email or by mailing a CD to the address below. Formats preferred are .GIF; .JPG and .PDF. Ads can also be accepted in Microsoft Word or Microsoft Publisher files. Full color is available with all ads.

Advertising Design Services: Design services are available by request and consultation and will be billed separately.

Send all Newsletter ads to:

Julie Heston
36 Elisha Mathewson Road, N. Scituate, RI 02857
401-934-3677
jheston@verizon.net

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome New Member:

Bryce Fischer, Assistant, Boston G.C., Hingham MA

Congratulations to Ed and Christina Downing on the birth of their daughter Sofia on October 22, 2010 weighing 6lbs. 4ozs.

UMASS OFFERS TOP NOTCH CERTIFICATE TRAININGS FOR PROFESSIONAL TURF MANAGERS

UMASS WINTER SCHOOL FOR TURF MANAGERS immerses students in a full-time, seven week program, focused solely on the management of fine turf and taught by UMass faculty and staff. It is a comprehensive certificate program designed to furnish turf managers with the concepts essential to maintaining high quality turf, while instilling a sense of environmental stewardship and fiscal responsibility.

Winter School 2011 runs January 3 - February 17, 2011, at the UMass campus in Amherst. Classes are scheduled: Mon 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM, Tu - Th 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM, and Fri 8:00 AM - noon. This schedule is designed to accommodate weekend commuters who may

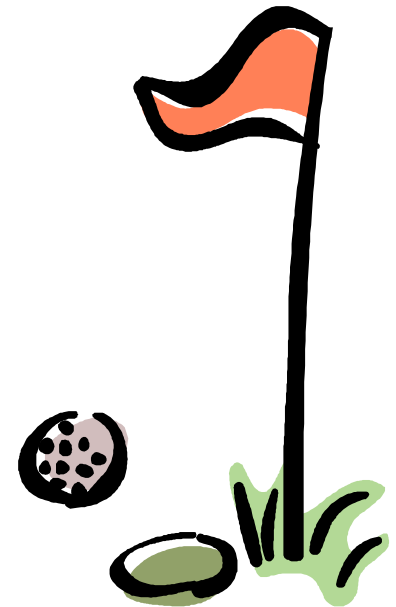
want to stay in the Amherst area Tues. – Thurs. evenings but head home on the weekends. Some area hotels offer special packages just for UMass Winter School students. Pesticide recertification contact hours will be offered for all New England states, and 23 Continuing Education Units (CEUs) are offered. Successful completion of Winter School has been approved by the Sports Turf Managers Association for 1.75 Education Points in the Certified Sports Field Manager (CSFM) Program. Space is limited. International student application deadline is September 16, **while applications from United States students will be accepted until the class is full.**

For more information about Winter School go to www.umassturf.org and click on 'Certificate Programs', call (413) 545-5202, or email academicprograms@contined.umass.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.

CALENDAR

**November 1:
GCSANE Monthly Meeting
9-Hole Meeting**
Mount Pleasant Golf Club
Host: Jack Hassett



Please Patronize these FRIENDS of the ASSOCIATION

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