



CONNECTICUT  
ASSOCIATION OF  
GOLF COURSE  
SUPERINTENDENTS



# Connecticut Clippings

AFFILIATED CHAPTER  
**GCSAA**

Volume 47, No 3

June 2013

## A PERFECT DAY FOR A PERFECT GENTLEMAN

The 2013 Joseph Troll Classic, held on May 6th, was a perfect day to honor Mike Wallace, CGCS, a perfect gentleman. TPC of Boston was in excellent condition and the weather was beautiful. I am very proud to have worked with Mike in the drive to build the Troll Research Center and establishing Alumni Turf Group in 2005 to support the research and education that benefits our profession. Numerous accounts of Mike's professionalism and generosity were shared with the group and the consensus of those in attendance is clear that the day was a tremendous success. Congratulations and sincere thanks to Mike and his lovely wife Jo for a perfect evening on a perfect day.

Steve Curry, GCS, Social & Welfare Chairperson



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Mark Mansur

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## The President's Message

As we are in the midst of yet another interesting weather pattern, I hope this message finds everyone in good health and in full swing. And while everyone is bailing out and looking for a dry pair of socks, it does give us the opportunity to recharge our batteries. So take the time to hang out with family and friends, allow staff some time off and hit the snooze button once while the weather is not so demanding of your time. Because, as we all know, what comes around....goes around...

As far as association news and notes, there is some buzz at the State Capital regarding HB 6385 which will disallow sustainable and thoughtful approaches to the control of pests, weeds and insects, thus, jeopardizing the safety and quality of playing fields. This and other house bills have a tendency to overlap into the golf course industry and it's important not to lose our position as environmental stewards in the eyes of state legislators. Stay

tuned for future emails and opportunities to align your selves with opposition to this type of proposed legislation.

On a final note, the CAGCS has some exciting upcoming golf events that are lined up at some of our more noteworthy golf courses: Oxford Greens, Fishers Island, Hartford Golf Club and Old Lyme Country Club. Taking the time to attend one or all of these events has many benefits including some networking opportunities and well deserved time off. As well, the CAGCS is working on co-hosting an after hours educational event with UCONN and its research farm. There is more information in this issue of *The Clippings* regarding this awesome interactive turf forum.

I wish everyone much success in the 2013 golf season!

Cheers!  
Mark



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## APRIL MEETING RESULTS STONINGTON COUNTRY CLUB | APRIL 29, 2013

Two Man Shamble  
Two Man Team Qualifying

### 1st Gross- 155 –

Paul Boyd, Greenwich CC  
Mike Dachowski, Shelter Harbor GC

### 2nd Gross- 156 –

Rick Schock, Aspetuck Valley CC  
Jason Dowgiewicz, Plant Food Company

### 1st Net- 131 –

Jason Booth, New Haven CC  
Mike Carignan, Chas. Hart Seed Co.

### 2nd Net-132 –

Rob Giampetro, Bull's Bridge GC  
Mark Crananzola, Bull's Bridge GC

**Longest Drive** - Sean Flynn, Great River GC

**Closets to the line**- Mark Osborne, Steven Willand Co.

**Longest Putt #5** – 6'3" John Motycka, Skungamaug River GC

**Longest Putt-#13** – 12'10" Sean Flynn, Great River GC

**Closest to the Pin #2** – 9" Jason Booth, New Haven CC

**Closest to the Pin #8** – 6'1" Jason Dowgawicz, Plant Food Co.

**Closest to the Pin# 12** – 7'7" Mike Dukette, Harrell's

**Closest to the Pin #16** – 4'5" Dave Wallace, Tartan Farms LLC

## MAY MEETING RESULTS WATERTOWN GOLF CLUB MAY 20, 2013

Superintendent / Assistant - 2 person best ball  
President's Cup & McLaughlin Trophy

### FLIGHT "A"

**1st Gross** - 76 – Shuttle Meadow CC

Andrew Hannah & Sean Savoy

**2nd Gross** - 78 – Twin Hills CC

Michael McDermott & Eric DeStefano

**1st Net** - 63 – Watertown Golf Club

Paul Bonini, CGCS & Doug Cooper

**2nd Net** - 64 – Lake of Isles

David Maher & Jake Ravis

### FLIGHT "B"

**1st Gross** – 74

Ward Weischet, John

Deere Golf

Bill Demur, Hop Meadow CC

**2nd Gross** – 77

Mark Osborn, Steven

Willand Inc.

Steven Loughran, Rock

Ridge GC

**1st Net** – 62

Anthony Grosso,

Mohegan Sun CC

Steven Rackliffe, UCONN

**2nd Net** – 63

Peter Gorman, Pine

Orchard Yacht & CC

Brian Pope, Turf Products Corp.

### Closest to the Pin:

#4 – 15'9" – Randy Rider, LidoChem, Inc.

#9 – 19'4" – Jay Anderson, BISCO

#14 – 3'10" – Alex Simpson, Sharon CC

#15 – 16'7" – Marc Weston, Indian Hill CC

**Longest Drive** - #1 Eric DeStefano, Twin Hills CC

**Closets to the line** - #10 Melissa Gugliotti, Syngenta

### Longest Putt:

#9 – 11'9" – Chris Russo, BISCO

#14 – 6'4" – Michael McDermott, Twin Hills CC

**President's Cup winner** – Ward Weischet, John Deere Golf

**McLoughlin Trophy winner** – Mark Osborn, Steven Willand, Inc.

Mike Krudwig  
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## NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL TURFGRASS FOUNDATION, INC. | MAY 28, 2013

The New England Regional Turfgrass Foundation recently held its 16th Annual Meeting on May 28, 2013 where a new Executive Board was elected. Steve Mann, CGCS of the Captain's Course in Brewster, Massachusetts is the 17th president of the foundation, succeeding Scott Cybulski, CGCS of Martindale Country Club in Auburn, Maine. Steve represents the Golf Course Superintendent Association of Cape Cod on the Foundation's Board. John Clark, GCS of Rochester Country Club in Gonic, New Hampshire representing the New Hampshire Golf Course Superintendent Association will serve in the vice-president seat for this upcoming year. Clifford J. Drezek of Arbor-Turf Services in Marlborough, Massachusetts representing the Massachusetts Association of Lawn Care Professionals will fill the role of Treasurer. Matthew A. Crowther, CGCS of Mink Meadows Golf Club in Vineyard Haven, MA also representing the Golf Course Superintendent Association of Cape Cod will take the pen as the foundation secretary. The foundation consists of 2 delegates from each of the 7 GCSAA Chapters located in New England, 1 delegate from the Sports Turf Managers Association of New England (NESTMA) and 1 delegate from the Massachusetts Association of Lawn Care Professionals (MALCP). There are two advisory seats filled by the University of Massachusetts and the University of Rhode Island respectfully.

The 16th Annual Conference and Show was held in Providence, RI on March 4-7, 2013. 64 hours of education and 13 hours of trade show were offered over the 4 days. Attendees had a wide variety of turf management topics to attend including a full-day management seminar on grass tennis courts. Sessions included Golf, Sports Turf, Lawn Care & Landscape, Equipment Technicians, and Professional Development.

Sportscaster, longtime sports anchor and avid golfer Len Berman delivered this year's keynote address. More than 160 exhibitors supported the trade show, and preparations are underway for the 17th conference and show. The 2014 show dates are: March 3-6, 2014 in Providence, RI. For more information on the show and New England Turfgrass Research please visit our website: [www.nertf.org](http://www.nertf.org).



### 2013-2014 NERTF Executive Board

*Front Row (l to r): Clifford Drezek (Treas.) & Steve Mann, CGCS (2013-14 Pres.);  
Back Row: Matthew Crowther, CGCS (Sect.), John Clark (VP), Scott Cybulski,  
CGCS (2012-13 Past-Pres.)*

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# Grass Catcher

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## New Members

Anthony Grant; Class Commercial  
New England Turf, Inc.

## Congratulations

Andy & Anne Fries on the birth of their son  
Drew William. He was born on April 30th  
and weighed 5 lbs. 11 oz. He joins his 2 sisters  
Ava (8 yrs. old) and Allie (5 yrs. old)

Shannon Slevin & Gloria on the birth of their  
second child Hadley Shea. She was born on  
May 27th and weighed in at 6 lbs. 11 oz.

To Greg Moore, on his new position of  
owner at Saturated Solutions.

## Condolences

To the family of Kevin Bengtson,  
Roots and Shoots  
Landscaping, on his  
untimely passing, on  
April 27, 2013.

**2014 NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL  
TURFGRASS CONFERENCE AND  
SHOW** March 3-6, 2014  
Rhode Island Convention Center,  
Providence, RI

## UConn After Hours

**WHAT:** An evening field tour of the  
UConn Turf Pathology research plots  
and dinner for golf course professionals.  
The tour will focus on current pathology  
field research including demonstrations  
on efficacy of new plant protectants  
on putting green and fairway turf, and  
discussion of this summer's disease  
issues.

**WHEN:** Tuesday, July 23, 2013  
5:00 – 7:30 pm

**WHERE:** UConn Plant Science Research  
and Education Center  
University of Connecticut  
Storrs, CT  
More details to follow!

## REMINDERS!

### CAGCS WINTER SEMINAR

Tuesday, January 14,  
2014  
Mystic Marriott Hotel  
& Spa, Mystic, CT



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 Treasurer – Paul Bonini, CGCS  
 Past President – John Garcia

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 Scholarship & Research –  
 Peter Gorman  
 Social & Welfare – Stephen Curry  
 Government Relations –  
 Scott Ramsay, CGCS  
 Commercial Rep to Board –  
 Melissa Gugliotti  
 Class C Rep to the Board  
 William Abbe

*Reilly was chasing the goose and jumped over it, knocking it down. The goose played dead which upset Reilly and he sat next to the goose for quite some time.*

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**2013 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

**July 16**  
Tuesday

**THE GOLF CLUB AT OXFORD GREENS**  
 CAGCS Benevolent Fundraiser, Low Gross/Net Blind Partners  
 2nd Round CAGCS Championship  
 New England Team Championship Qualifier

Bryan Barrington  
Host Superintendent

**August 1**  
Thursday

**UMASS TURF RESEARCH FIELD DAY**

**August 25**  
Sunday

**LAKE COMPOUNCE**  
 CAGCS Family Day, PRESENTING PARTNER

**syngenta**

**October 1**  
Tuesday

**FISHERS ISLAND CLUB**  
 CAGCS MEMBER/GUEST  
 PRESENTING PARTNER

**Atlantic**  
golf & turf

Donald Beck  
Host Superintendent

**October 21**  
Monday

**THE HARTFORD GOLF CLUB**  
 CAGCS Scholarship & Research Tour.  
 PRESENTING PARTNER

**John IAWIN**

Jonathan Burke  
Host Superintendent

**October 15**  
Tuesday

**NE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP**  
 Sterling Country Club

**October**

**Class C Tournament**

**November 4**  
Monday

**OLD LYME COUNTRY CLUB**  
 9-Hole Scramble ABCD, CAGCS Annual Meeting

Brian Skelly  
Host Superintendent

**December 4**  
Wednesday

**PATTERSON CLUB**  
 MET/CAGCS FALL SEMINAR

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## DIAGNOSIS BY SOCIAL NETWORKING: APPS, TWITTER, ONLINE RESOURCES.....AND DIAGNOSTIC LABS?

John Inguagiato, Ph.D.  
University of Connecticut

Golf course superintendents have relied on one another for advice and recommendations for years. This advice often comes during a visit to a friend's course or just by picking up the phone and talking about what they're seeing. With this established network of superintendents looking to help out one another, it is no surprise that many managers are now using their smart phones to take advantage of even larger online networks.

Many of us have taken to Twitter and Facebook to post photos, and seek advice about the identity of potential disease issues, or pest control recommendations. For those of you not using these social media sites, the idea is simply to post a photo and short description to your online followers and see if someone recognizes the problem and can share some information to help you out. If you have an active online network of followers it is likely you may get an answer, or several, within the hour. Alternatively, even if you don't post any comments or questions yourself, you can get real-time information

about disease activity or other issues just by reading other people's posts.

"Turfpath" is a new smart phone based app that takes social media powered pest updates and commentary a step further. Posts can be viewed as a list with photos similar to a Twitter feed, or on a map so you can look at current pest activity in your own geographic region. The app also contains general information on pest identification, including photos and control recommendations. You can also review pesticide characteristics and access labels and MSDS within the app. In my opinion, one real advantage of this app over your Twitter account is that topics are specific to turf pest incidence, and you can limit the posts you view only to those in your area.

There is no question that the photo capability of today's smart phones and social networking are helpful tools for superintendents seeking advice on turf maladies. However, it is good to remember that these resources are not always a replacement for traditional on-site consultations, or more importantly, sending a sample to a diagnostic lab. The limited text that is permitted to accompany photos in social media sites can often be insufficient to provide necessary information to accurately diagnose more complex problems.

I have also encountered situations where photos sometimes look like something that upon receiving a sample in the diagnostic lab turned out to be something else. A recent example

occurred this spring when photos appeared to resemble mycelium of Pythium blight, although turf under the mycelium was not blighted, and the cool night temperatures made this diagnosis unlikely. It wasn't until a sample was submitted to the UCONN Turfgrass Disease Diagnostic Center that we could evaluate the fungal structures under the microscope and determine the fungus was not a pathogen, but actually bread mold that was not harmful to this putting green turf. In this case, an accurate diagnosis saved an unnecessary fungicide application.

As professionals, it is great to seek out and utilize new technologies to help us make more informed decisions. Today's apps and social networking are certainly one aspect we can use to enrich our understanding of turf problems. However, don't overlook the value of traditional resources such as diagnostic labs, on-site consultations, and calling your local university extension personnel. These approaches may not always provide instant answers, but in some cases might yield more accurate results.

- You can find out more about the Turfpath app for iPhone and Android on the website: [www.turfpath.com](http://www.turfpath.com)
- Get regional turfgrass disease updates by following @UCONNturfpath on Twitter.
- For turf disease diagnosis, complete the submission form available at: <http://www.turf.uconn.edu/pdf/form.pdf> and send samples to:

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## KEVIN'S CORNER

How often do you stop and think about how you got started in this industry? I know for some of you, you're not the first generation to be superintendents. But for the rest of us, at some point there was an exposure to our craft that drew us in and helped develop a passion for what we do. Why do I ask?

18 year GCSAA Member Frank Tichenor at the Forrest Hill Field Club reached out in the fall of 2012 asking about golf course programs available for school groups. After communicating with Northwest Field Staff David Phipps, we directed Tichenor to The First Green Foundation of Bellevue, Washington. They have developed a learning program including a packet containing simple science based experiments designed for use at a golf facility. The results of all the efforts culminated this spring when 40 fifth graders from Clifton public school #16 arrived for a field trip on Tuesday May 7th. The students were exposed to many environmental aspects of the course such as pond management, wildlife habitats, and weather station use. Cultural practices, including an aeration demonstration, were discussed as a part of agronomic practices and the result of improved plant health. The students were given a tour of all parts of the facility including short talks about future career options in all aspects of the golf industry (even as a GCSAA Field Staff!!!). While Tichenor and fellow FHFC employee, and fifth grade teacher herself, Dawn Payton had developed an agenda for the day, the students were really the ones whose interest in various aspects of the course and environment stole the program. Who knew that the topdressing sand pile would be a highlight, or that a lengthy discussion would

take place about the now two-foot long grass carp placed in the irrigation ponds to eat algae? The first ever First Green event on the east coast was determined to be a great success. They hit balls at the range and learned putting tips from the facility head professional as well. The students polled were excited about their day at FHFC, and all had expressed what a great learning experience the day had been. Tichenor explained to me that The First Green estimates each student would reference golf between 30-40 times because of the experience they have in one day at his facility. Maybe one day, these students will look back at their career in golf and point to their field trip to the Forrest Hill Field Club as their answer to how they got into the golf industry. Have you ever thought about conducting an event such as this at your facility? For more information about the First Green Foundation: The First Green: [www.thefirstgreen.org](http://www.thefirstgreen.org)

Frank Tichenor has offered to share his experience with you if you have any questions as well. Please contact me and I will gladly pass along his email address to you!

### GCSAA Resources and Deadlines:

#### Introducing Healthy Turf, Healthy Tomorrow

This initiative by Bayer through funding of the Environmental Institute For Golf (EIFG) seeks to advance plant health research and education for GCSAA superintendents, ensuring the health of their courses - and the industry - for generations to come. 12 superintendents will be selected from applicants to take part in a two-part, immersive curriculum that involves classroom training at GCSAA in Lawrence, Kan., and field training at Bayer's plant health facility in Clayton, N.C. For more information, or to apply for the program follow the link here. Deadline to apply is June 5th.

### The Affordable Care Act - What Employers Need to Know Now: Webcast June 6th

The Affordable Care Act was passed by Congress and then signed into law by the President on March 23, 2010. On June 28, 2012, the Supreme Court rendered a final decision upholding the constitutionality of the health care law. The law puts in place multiple reforms that roll out through 2014 and beyond. Plan now to join us and learn what compliance deadlines are coming and what you need to do to comply. Specific topics covered in the presentation will include: who the law applies to and who it does not, employer mandates, health benefit exchanges, new and increased taxes and fees, and more. Register here.

### GCSAA 2014 Board Nominations: Due June 8th

Robert M. Randquist, CGCS - 2013 GCSAA Nominating Committee Chairman has put out the request for nominations. If you would like more information on how to be nominated, or nominate a fellow member, visit GCSAA.org for details.

### Distinguished Service Award nominations: Deadline July 15th

The GCSAA Col. John Morley Distinguished Service Award (DSA) is presented annually to an individual or individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to the advancement of the golf course superintendent's profession. The contribution must be significant in both substance and duration, and may be, or have been, regional in nature. Follow this link for more information and how to submit a nomination.

Kevin Doyle

Field Staff, Northeast Region

[kdoyle@gcsaa.org](mailto:kdoyle@gcsaa.org) and on Twitter at: @GCSAA\_NE

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## UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS TURF RESEARCH FIELD DAY

Thursday, August 1, 2013

Turf managers and associates from across the Northeast region: mark your calendars for University of Massachusetts Turf Research Field Day on Thursday, August 1, 2013. This mid-summer date provides an excellent opportunity to view turf during the stressful summer period and to clearly distinguish experimental differences. As in the past, this year's event will be held at the center of the UMass Turf Program's field research universe: the UMass Joseph Troll Turf Research Center on River Road in South Deerfield, Massachusetts.

Take a short break from your busy schedule to join us for a morning of education and insight... on our turf! Field Day 2013 will focus on the research currently taking place at the Joseph Troll Turf Research Center as well as on research being conducted at other locations by University of Massachusetts Turf Program faculty, staff, and graduate students. Attendees will enjoy meeting and speaking with UMass researchers and viewing projects underway. Research presentations planned for the agenda include wear tolerance and water use of tennis court turf, influence of organic and conventional golf course management on soil microbe communities, turf physiology responses to plant health products, and novel approaches for annual bluegrass control. An array of National Turfgrass Evaluation Program (NTEP) turfgrass variety trials will also be featured. The half-day agenda will include a trade show, with numerous Green Industry vendors and exhibitors on hand.

Support the UMass Turf Program with your presence at Turf Field Day 2013! Come to learn about cutting-edge turf research, network with colleagues, and meet with vendors. Pesticide recertification contact hours have been requested, valid for all New England states. Continental breakfast and complete picnic lunch are included in the price of registration.

For additional information, visit [www.extension.umass.edu/turf](http://www.extension.umass.edu/turf). Contact Mary Owen at 508-892-0382; [mowen@umext.umass.edu](mailto:mowen@umext.umass.edu) or Jason Lanier at 413-545-2965; [jdlanier@umext.umass.edu](mailto:jdlanier@umext.umass.edu) Sponsorship opportunities are available, please inquire.



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