



THE NEWSLETTER

Golf Course Superintendents

Association OF NEW ENGLAND, INC.

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

June 1995

GCSANE assumes leadership of Massachusetts Turf Conference

June Meeting

Monday, June 19, 1995
Pittsfield Country Club
Pittsfield, Massachusetts

Host Superintendent
John J. Pluta

- 9 a.m. Board Meeting
10 a.m. Coffee & donuts
for general membership
11 a.m. Regular Meeting (Education will
be Judd Sokol from Soft Spikes.)
11:40 a.m. Lunch
1 p.m. Golf (Barbecue to follow golf.
Cost: lunch, golf, & barbecue,
\$40; lunch only, \$12; lunch &
barbecue, \$20.)

Note: This will be a spikeless tournament. All those who call for reservations will be provided with soft spikes for golf shoes.

Reservations Required
Call by June 15, 1995
PLEASE NOTE THIS CHANGE!
(508) 632-0252

You must pay by check - No cash!
Checks payable to GCSANE

Jack Pluta has been the golf course superintendent at the Country Club of Pittsfield since 1985. Prior to that he was the superintendent at Westover G.C. for eight years. Jack is a 1974 graduate of the Stockbridge School of Agriculture. Jack is also a member of the Mass. Turf and Lawngrass Association, and he has served on the Mass. Turf Conference Educational Program Committee. He and his wife Louise, daughters Emily (aged 2 1/2), and Katie (aged 1 1/2) reside in Hinsdale, Mass. In his spare time, when he isn't riding his Harley, Jack enjoys hunting and fishing.

Directions: From the Mass. Pike, take Exit 2 (Lee). At the end of the ramp, turn right (Rte. 20 west). Continue for 10 miles on Rte. 20 to Rte. 7 north. Club is on right.

Since timing is everything, the timing never has been better for what's about to happen come January when the Golf Course Superintendents Association of New England assumes the role of guiding light behind the 40-something-year-old Massachusetts Turf Conference.

So, after 36 years as the educational extravaganza's telling force, and, in fact, its savior, perennial director Joe Troll is stepping down as the show's chairman. However, GCSANE president and Troll's successor, Chip Brearley, emphasizes that by no means is Joe stepping aside.

"No way," Brearley remarked. "This is not a takeover, just a move by our association to play a heavier hand in the conference. We're still depending on Joe to lend his experience and know-how to the event as our adviser. And . . . Lonnie Troll (Joe's wife and integral part of the family operations team) will share the secretary's duties with Denise Ruzala (wife of GCSANE treasurer Bob Ruzala)."

The conference's new look will go beyond administrative change. For its initial offering the GCSANE is moving the date and site of the show - from early March to

Jan. 15, 16, 17, and from the Springfield Civic Center to the Marriott Copley Place Hotel in Boston.

Again, Brearley notes that these changes should not be construed as a result of dissatisfaction with the past or the City of Springfield. "The conference always was a success in Springfield," Chip said. "This has nothing to do with failure. As a matter of fact, the most recent Springfield show had a record attendance (1900). However, we made the changes in order to broaden the horizons of the conference. I like to refer to our theme as 'keeping up with the future'. And, for us, the future is now."

Troll, whose conference productions generated close to one million dollars for turf research and turf school scholarships, endorses the change and transfer of administrative authority. But he does it with a heavy heart.

"This has been our baby," he characterized his and Lonnie's involvement in the conference operations. "But I think it's time we gave it up. I'll be 75 soon and I'm using that as a bench mark in reducing our

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Chip Brearley
President, GCSANE

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involvement. I also want to make it clear that ours was not a 'tired conference'. Our last show proved that. Heck, we turned away 45 vendors for the industrial show.

"I also want to have it known that the Civic Center always treated us well. I don't want to see anyone put a knock on that place. But I realize it is not the totally ideal location. Regardless, I want to see those guys (supers) succeed. It's always been the show's intention that the superintendents eventually play the leading role staging it. That's been my intention, too. It gets my blessing and my offer to help when and where I can."

GCSANE vice president Bob DiRico, who will serve the event as co-chairman with Cape Cod representative Jim Conant, is super-positive about the conference's new dates and site.

"I realize this whole thing presents a sensitive transition," DiRico said. "There always are going to be people who oppose change and we can't do anything about that. But the feeling has been that Boston, as a major city, is a better site. In addition, our facility is superior to anything we've ever had in the Springfield area.

"The vital difference is that we can stage everything under one roof. A person attending the conference can check into the hotel and never have to leave it to take advantage of every phase of our presentation. The Copley has 1100 rooms, just about the same amount of industrial show booth space as Springfield, and meeting rooms that are triple-A rated. True, it will cost a little more to the individual, but the overall quality of the setting will offset that."

DiRico also disclosed that the date change was dictated by a couple of considerations.

"First, those January dates could be a practical lock for the future," he told. "Believe me, it's not easy to tie down three straight days for a conference or convention in Boston. The city is an attraction in itself for such ventures. Then, there's the fact that January gives the golf course superintendent more flexibility with his time. There are situations when some supers have to meet responsibilities at their clubs in early March. January avoids that possibility; plus the date has no impact regarding the national show which has been consistently running in February."

Although there have been scattered signs of resistance to the changes the GCSANE made in the first association-led conference, other factors indicate acceptance roars through the majority of a potential audience. Certainly, the new look has been endorsed by the tradespeople.

"We're 99 percent sold out when it comes to booth space," DiRico beamed.

Brearley, who has championed deeper association involvement in the conference for the better part of three years, reminds that the Mass Turf and Lawn Grass group is still a part of the conference picture. He also maintains that Boston's more streamlined surroundings lend themselves to an upbeat attitude.

"I know there are a lot of people who are anxious to see our new approach happen and there are others who aren't so sure," he concluded. "But timing dictates change in this matter. It's just more advantageous for us to be in Boston at a time that makes it affordable for all. And down the road I can see our horizons expanding to perhaps a regional venture in a turf conference and trade show. However, one move at a time. I know it's a right move at the right time."

GERRY FINN

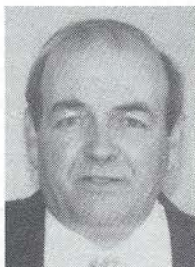
Calendar

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|------------------|--|
| June 19 | GCSANE Monthly Meeting
Pittsfield C.C.
Pittsfield, Mass. |
| June 29 | Superintendent - Green Chairman Tournament
Wachusett C.C.
West Boylston, Mass. |
| July 10 | GCSANE Monthly Meeting & Superintendent Championship Tournament
Indian Ridge C.C.
Andover, Mass. |
| Aug. 14 | GCSANE Monthly Meeting
Ponkapoag G.C.
Canton, Mass. |
| Sept. 11 | GCSANE Monthly Meeting & Team of Two Championship Tournament
Westminster C.C.
Westminster, Mass. |
| Oct. 16 | GCSANE Turf Research Tournament
Salem C.C.
Peabody, Mass. |
| Oct. 18 | Shanahan Memorial Pro-Superintendent Tournament
Willowbend Club
Cotuit, Mass. |
| Nov. 6 | GCSANE Monthly Meeting
Hopedale C.C.
Hopedale, Mass. |
| Nov. 28-29 | GCSAA Regional Seminar
Golf History, Theory, Construction, and Maintenance
The International
Bolton, Mass. |
| Jan. 15-17, 1996 | 65th Mass. Turf Conference & 20th Industrial Show
Boston Marriott - Copley Place
Boston, Mass. |

The Super Speaks Out:

This month's question: How are you coping with the golf course superintendent's first challenge of the new golf season — educating players on the many advantages of repairing ball marks and replacing divots?

Gary Luccini, Franklin Country Club: "When you say our first challenge of a new golf season, I think you mean our first headache, because that's just what it is. Having to put up with ball marks on the greens and hat-sized takeouts of turf on tees and fairways tests the patience and composure of all golf course superintendents, pre- sent company especially included.



"Although, and I do have to say it for many of our members, we do have people playing here who try to become part of the maintenance team by repairing ball marks and replacing divots.

"On the latter count, I like to tell about one of our members (a lady, in fact) who went to great pains to put three pieces of torn turf together and place them back to the spot they occupied before she sent them flying with an iron shot. I saw it happen and it gave me a little lift. Maybe, just maybe, we're (superintendents) getting our point across.

"I'm a big sign man, myself. There are signs on all our golf carts, reminding golfers about repairing ball marks and replacing divots. They're there and every other place I can tack them up. Another separate sign, located at the accelerator pedal, serves as a reminder as to just where the off-limit areas exist for golf carts. I think they work out pretty well.

"However, there still are members, most of them newcomers who are coming

"A reminder to fix marks and replace divots should be automatic when a player signs in."

**Ed Amor
Far Corners Golf Club**

over from public courses, who pay no attention to signs or other forms of communication relating to ball mark and damaged turf situations. You know, one of the sorriest sights on a golf course is to see a brown spot on a green that never would have happened if a ball mark had been repaired.

"One other observation falls into place here is the fact that I find our women members follow the rules much better than the men. Not only are they neater, they have a stronger sense of responsibility when it comes to the job of helping preserve top playing conditions. Frankly, the men could learn a lot from them."

Ed Amor, Jr., Far Corners Golf Club: "Would you be surprised if I told you that repairing ball marks and replacing divots just doesn't happen? Well, we do everything but pick up after every foursome around here. Even that wouldn't help. I think the problem has no solution.

"However, I haven't given up. We put up signs even though there is evidence some of them are knocked down and destroyed by some of the players. We ask people to remember to repair damaged areas, we give demonstrations on how to fix marks and divots, but it just doesn't work.

"Of course, we're a year-round operation, so the risk to the turf is even greater because of weather conditions during off-season days. They are really hard on the course. Funny, too, we do our part. We stage tournaments every Sunday during the winter and I can remember using the snow blower to accommodate our players. If they'd only reciprocate.

"I must say we do have members who make an attempt to respond to ball mark and divot pleas. But we also have league players, once-a-week golfers who don't know what a ball mark or flying divot is.

"Whatever, I think rectifying the situation should begin in the pro shop. A reminder to fix marks and replace divots should be automatic when a player signs in . . . even give him a repair tool. Otherwise, this is just another sad situation the super has to live with. Ain't it the truth?"

Bruce McIntyre, Olde Barnstable Fairgrounds Golf Club: "Okay, here's the backdrop here: A five-year-old municipal course, young, innocent with tender turf - assaulted by about 55,000 rounds of golf a year. And those rounds are played every day of the year (sans snow) on regular greens. Yes, I said there's no such thing as a temporary green at Olde Barnstable.

"So, what do you get from that scenario? We have greens that look like they've permanently been under attack from German measles, and tees and fairways that could double for World War II bombed-out areas.

"Since we're into numbers, I'd say that 90 percent of our players don't bother to repair ball marks or replace divots. Those figures make sense because this is a municipal course. From my experience (two private club positions), I'd say that private member courses have players who are more aware of what goes into the process of giving them top-notch conditions. They respect that input, both the physical and financial parts of it, and they react accordingly. Public players are more interested in what they're doing, not where they're doing it.

"We do everything in our power to put players on the right track regarding their responsibility to the condition of the course. Signs, ropes, verbal reminders, divot boxes on all tees. You name the remedy. We've given it a try.

"It all boils down to a form of basic golf etiquette, and I think it all begins at the junior level. If a golfer is made aware of his or her responsibilities to the maintaining of adequate playing conditions at a young age, chances are it will carry over to their adult years. I guess it just has to be pounded into them . . . repair, replace and you reap the rewards in a well-groomed golf course. That's the only way it's going to happen. We can only do so much. In the end, it's up to the golfers, themselves, to keep the maintenance ball rolling."

GERRY FINN

"I'd say that private member courses have players who are more aware of what goes into the process of giving them top notch conditions."

**Bruce McIntyre
Olde Barnstable
Fairgrounds G.C.**

An introduction to Velvet Bentgrass

by C.R. Skogley,
Professor Emeritus, U. of R.I.

Velvet Bentgrass (*Agrostis canina*, subsp. *canina*) could be the grass of the present and the future for golf greens in temperate regions. Large sums of money are spent annually attempting to find ways to reduce management inputs on golf turf. One obvious, but neglected, method to achieve this goal is to utilize a grass that has reduced growth requirements. Velvet bentgrass is such a grass.

Velvet bentgrass was a common component on greens of many older golf courses into the 1960s. In most cases it arrived as a component of South German Mixed Bent, the seed widely used on our earliest courses. South German was a naturally occurring blend of creeping bentgrass (*A. stolonifera* L.), colonial, (*A. tenuis* Sibth.), and velvet, and for many years was the only bentgrass available as seed. Until the advent of Seaside and Penncross varieties in the 1940s and 1950s, greens were estab-

lished with South German seed or vegetatively established from stolons.

Under the low level of maintenance provided through the first half of this century, velvet bent would generally predominate over creeping bent. With the advent of increased inorganic fertilizer and water usage, velvet began to suffer and developed a poor reputation among superintendents. As velvet bentgrass was weakened by excessive management, *Poa annua* became a prime replacement. As the following generations of superintendents came into the decision-making positions, few were familiar with velvet bentgrass management, and fewer still made the effort to learn.

Agronomists recognize that each species has specific growth requirements for optimum performance. Bentgrasses in general perform under lower fertility conditions better than bluegrasses or ryegrasses. Within a genus such as *Agrostis* (bentgrasses), there is also a range of differences among species. Velvet and colonial will make good growth under lower fertility and drier soil conditions

than will the creepers. Colonials will tolerate drier soil than will velvets, but will not tolerate the close cut required on greens.

According to Hitchcock, velvet bentgrass may be found in meadows and in open grounds from Newfoundland, Quebec, and Michigan in the north and as far south as Delaware, West Virginia, and Tennessee. Unlike other bents, it is well adapted for use in shady locations as well as in the sun. Velvet bent is rather tolerant of infertile soils, but does not thrive on soils that are poorly drained. Dickinson wrote that "Velvet greens are what every greenskeeper is striving to obtain".

In 1932 ten professional golfers were invited to putt on greens at Arlington Turf Gardens in Virginia. The trials included four well-known vegetatively established creeping bents, colonial bents, South German mixed bents, and one selection of velvet bent. Each professional was asked to rate putting qualities of the grasses and indicate first, second, and third choice. Velvet bentgrass received the first choice vote of all ten professionals for the best surface.

In 1962 a variety of velvet bentgrass (Kingstown) was released by researchers at the Rhode Island Station. This has been the only seeded variety on the market. Because of declining interest and limited market, production ceased in the 1980s.

The Kingstown variety, like most velvets, was light green in color. Since turf managers (including superintendents) in America believe a dark green color is required, the light color of Kingstown was a serious disadvantage. In efforts to enhance color, excessive fertilizers were applied. This results in soft, weakened growth and eventually loss of stand density to *Poa annua* (annual bluegrass).

In 1994, seed of a new generation velvet bentgrass, SR 7200, was released. While exhibiting all the good characteristics of a velvet bentgrass, its inherent color is significantly darker green. It retains this color even under low level fertility conditions upon which it thrives.

Although the light textured, infertile, and acidic soils of New England may favor the management of velvet bentgrass, it has performed well, when managed properly, in many regions of the U.S. Additional testing into marginal climates will help to determine the range that velvet bentgrass is adapted.

From Paul McDonough.
Reprinted with permission from
The Seed Researcher.

A Message from the President

When the opportunity arose to become an integral part of a respected turf conference, the Board of Directors of GCSANE embraced that opportunity with great enthusiasm. At the same time the board had a clear understanding of the scope of responsibilities and amount of dedication needed to fulfill the obligation of management of this conference. As the Association moves forward with this, it will proceed with caution and great thought so as to continue and expand the level of professionalism, education, and presentation of opportunities to its members, conference attendees, and the entire turf industry.



The GCSANE Board of Directors and the Mass. Turf Conference Committee are grateful for the strong foundation which has been developed for this conference by many years of hard work on the part of many people, and will continue to build on this foundation with the same level of determination.

The possibilities are endless for the future. The initial step has already taken place. The next possibility could be the development of a regional conference. This can only be done with a positive attitude, commitment, openness to discussion, and the understanding that all interested parties including attendees will benefit.

The first and foremost goal of the Mass. Turf Conference is education. The Board of Directors of GCSANE and the Mass. Turf Conference Committee are committed to continuing to provide an arena for the dissemination of positive ideas for golf, sports and the lawn turf organizations.

One last comment: the Board of Directors of GCS and the committee of the Mass. Turf Conference and Industrial Show are committed to the positive advancement of the turf grass conference as a whole. They are also aware of people and organizations' needs and sensitive to their individual needs and goals.

CHIP BREARLEY

Don't forget lessons of last summer: long seasons + poor weather = turf stress

Dr. Gail L Schumann
Dept. of Plant Pathology,
University of Massachusetts

Our experiences last summer should not be forgotten. They emphasize the enormous increases in turfgrass stress in recent years - increased number of rounds, longer playing seasons, lower mowing heights, increased demand for "faster" greens. Combine these factors with the stressful weather conditions last July, and large turf areas are on the brink of disaster. Although the damage began and was a result of the July conditions, considerable turf loss actually occurred in August. Unfortunately, much of the problem for turfgrass managers lies with players who forget that the lush carpet of green is really composed of living plants.

Optimizing Plant Growth

Even though creeping bentgrass is adapted to relatively low mowing heights for use in putting greens, the individual plants still obtain all of their energy from sunlight striking the tiny leaves. Photosynthesis is the only process that gives plants food.

Fertilizer is a necessary supplement, but no substitute for real food. Photosynthesis in the leaves provides all the food for further growth of leaves, roots and new stolons to fill in the bare or injured areas. Low mowing height reduces the amount of leaf surface and directly reduces the amount of photosynthesis in a plant. Reduced photosynthesis means reduced food for the plant, so root growth is also reduced.

Disease Resistance

Disease resistance is a biological process which results in the production of defense compounds to fight against invading fungi and nematodes. When photosynthesis is reduced, the ability of a plant to resist diseases is reduced. When a plant is reduced to a minimal size by low mowing height, any injury by disease-causing fungi or nematodes, can become a significant threat to the health, and even survival, of the plant. These effects are magnified dur-

ing heat stress conditions when the growth of the plant and replacement of damaged tissues are also reduced.

Turf is particularly vulnerable during conditions such as we had last July in which high temperatures lasted for a long period of time. These conditions reduced the rate of turf growth - both in leaves and roots. At the same time, the weather was very humid which resulted in extensive moisture on turf leaf surfaces. These are the perfect conditions for infection by fungi which is why anthracnose was such a problem last summer.

New Disease Problems

Ask any diagnostician or turf manager what diseases are causing the most troublesome problems in recent years, and you will probably hear: *Pythium* root rot, summer patch, and anthracnose, especially the basal (crown) rot stage. All of these diseases are associated with compaction and drainage problems, low mowing height, and increased turf stress. *Pythium* root rot and summer patch are particular problems because they are caused by fungi that infect the roots. This means that often much of the damage has already occurred before the symptoms appear above ground. These diseases are also very difficult to control with fungicides. The same is true once the basal rot stage of anthracnose is noticed. Plants with severely infected crowns usually do not respond well to fungicide treatments. Where many plants are infected, significant loss of turf can occur for all three of these diseases.

Nematode problems are also becoming more common on sand putting greens or putting greens that have been top-dressed with sand for a number of years. Nematodes are always present in the root zone of turfgrass, but increased stress results in visible damage caused by the feeding of these tiny worms.

Planning Ahead

So what can be done to help turf survive these stresses and diseases related to stress? The real answers lie in basic turf management. This probably means an educational effort to help the players think of the playing surface as a living ecosystem of organisms. Although most are too small to see, there are many beneficial organisms as

well as harmful ones. A healthy turfgrass plant is the central focus because it reflects the health and stability of the entire turf ecosystem.

An example of these unseen interactions of organisms is the phenomenon of "disease resurgence." In some experiments, disease in plots treated with fungicides became more severe at the end of the application interval than in plots where no fungicide was applied at all. We suspect that one factor in disease resurgence is the disruption of the turf ecosystem and the natural biological controls.

Spring is the time to consider the importance of compaction and poor drainage as stress factors. A healthy root system is key to healthy turf. A regular aeration program is critical to good turf management with increased rounds and more months of play.

Spring is also the time to consider what can be done when the heat stress periods of summer arrive. We are lucky in New England that many of our heat stress periods are relatively short, interrupted by cooler periods when turf can recover. During prolonged stress, some turf loss is inevitable even under the best management practices.

It is possible to reduce the risks to turf by temporarily modifying practices during heat and drought stress periods. Turfgrass managers across the country have experimented with some ways to help turf survive stress. Some managers skip a mowing during heat stress or disease outbreaks, and whip the dew off the green instead. They have also tried temporarily raising the mowing height during stress periods. Some managers substitute rolling greens for certain mowings to maintain green speed. Some have also used occasional rolling to maintain green speed while raising mowing height.

It is not necessary to entirely sacrifice the playing conditions that golfers have come to expect. But they need to understand that some modifications in turf management during stress periods can mean less loss of turf and better playing conditions throughout the year.

From Turf Notes,
N.E. Cooperative Extension Systems,
March/April 1995

Meet the annual Bluegrass Weevil

Dr. Steven Alm, U. of R.I.

This turf insect pest has been particularly troubling for some superintendents over the past few years. Part of the problem is the lack of more than one or two good insecticides for control. A second reason would be the difficulty in timing the applications in any given year. Although I wrote about this insect in a 1992 newsletter, I have gained a bit more experience with this insect, and with the advent of some new insecticides, it deserves an update. Given my best interpretation of data on the life cycle of this pest in Rhode Island and New York, the following is my best guess at this time as to when you might encounter various life stages of this insect in the field. The following is only a guide, since I have seen first and second instars on one course near the ocean, while third instars and pupae could be found at a course just 20 miles inland! Keep in mind that *Hyperodes* is primarily a pest of annual bluegrass at cutting heights of 1/4-1/2".

April 15 - May 7 - (between forsythia and flowering dogwood blooms) - first generation adults are emerging from overwintering sites, mating, and laying eggs. An irritating soil drench of 1 oz. Lemon Joy per gal. water may bring adults to the surface and help in your application timing. This technique warrants further research. Liquid Dursban is the standard control for adults at this time, however, some superintendents have had good control with Oftanol (isofenphos). Tempo (cyfluthrin) had *Hyperodes* (adults) listed on the label but it is registered for home lawns only. This is due to EPA's concern about the potential for fish kills with the synthetic pyrethroids. Merit (imidachloprid) applied at this time has shown 50-70% control of *Hyperodes* at best and this data is limited in scope. Merit applications at this time, however, will control the two generations of black turfgrass *ataenius* grubs you may encounter and provide subsequent control of the other scarab grubs (larvae of Japanese, Oriental, Asiatic Garden, May or June beetles, European and Northern Masked chafers) that you may have in the fall. Merit will provide an average of 87% control of white grubs in the fall if applied in April and 95% control of white grubs if applied in May.

May 15 - June 25 - Young larvae are actively feeding near the crown of annual bluegrass plants. You must look from the top down to locate *Hyperodes* larvae. Gently pull apart the grass blade near the crown to see larvae. Larvae are not found in the soil until they are ready to pupate. Look in annual bluegrass that is starting to turn yellow. Most first generation damage is usually done by the first week in June in some years, while damage can extend into the third week in June in other years. Therefore in a "normal" year, your last chance to prevent serious damage is to apply a larval control either the end of May or the first or second week in June. Triumph (tees, greens, aprons only due to high

fish toxicity) has provided good control of early instar larvae. Most larvae pupate by June 25.

June 20 - July 4 - Second generation *Hyperodes* adults emerge and lay eggs. Control is usually not warranted. In some locations (Long Island and Westchester Co., N.Y.; Fairfield Co., Conn.; and other isolated courses in New York and New England), second generation control is warranted. Low height of cut in fairways, a preponderance of annual bluegrass, and good overwintering sites probably make these sites more vulnerable.

July 7-31 - Second generation *Hyperodes* larvae are feeding near the crowns of annual bluegrass. Control is usually not warranted (except as noted above).

Migration of adults to fairways begins in the spring about the time forsythia is in full bloom (April 15). By the time flowering dogwood is in bloom (May 7), most adults will have emerged. This is the period (April 15-May 7) for the first generation adult control. Chlorpyrifos (liquid Dursban) or isofenphos (liquid Oftanol) are good control choices since the ABW is a surface and thatch infesting insect. Control of the first generation will usually provide season long control. On courses with a preponderance of annual bluegrass, control of the second generation may be needed. The control spray on many courses can often be limited

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DIVOT DRIFT...announcements...educational seminars...job opportunities ...tournament results...and miscellaneous items of interest to the membership.

MEMBERSHIP

Proposed for Membership: Landmark Construction, Friend, Beverly, Mass.; Daniel Chapin, Affiliate, Landmark Construction.

Welcome New Members: Hartney-Greymont Tree Service, Friend, Needham, Mass.; Mark J. Tobin, Affiliate, Hartney-Greymont Tree Service; Mecor Environmental Inc., Friend, Weymouth, Mass.; Brian J. Luccini, Assistant, Wellesley C.C.; Lycott Environmental Research, Inc., Friend, Southbridge, Mass.; Christopher Tufts, Regular, Willowbend Club, Cotuit, Mass.

INFORMATION

Congratulations to Dr. Gail Schumann of UMass who received one of ten National Teaching Excellence Awards. These awards are the U.S. Department of Agriculture's highest awards for college professors.

In the May Newsletter, the GCSANE/Lonnie Troll Turf Research Fund was referred to as the GCSANE Turf Research Fund apologies for that oversight.

Our condolences to Larry Bunn and family whose father passed away recently in Iowa.

Congratulations to Bob & Maryann Dill on the birth of their son Christopher Hogan on May 24, 1995. Christopher weighed in at 7 lbs., 14 oz., and measured 21" long.

On August 16, 1995, the Francis Ouimet Scholarship Fund will hold its annual Golf Marathon 3. Any member who would like to play in this event will be sponsored by GCSANE. Please call Chip Brearley at 508-584-6568 for more information.

Congratulations to Jim Reinertson of Dedham Country and Polo Club who was named Seed Research of Oregon's "Superintendent of the Year" for commitment to turf quality and environmental stewardship.

Diagnostic Update: Disease and nematode diagnostic services continue to be available at the U. of Mass. and the U. of R.I. Diagnosis fee for this year is \$50. Disease diagnosis is done by Dr. Gail Schumann at UMass (Fernald Hall, UMass, Amherst, MA 01003, tel. 413-545-3413). Disease and nematode diagnosis is done by Dr. Noel Jackson at the U. of R.I. (234 Woodward Hall, URI, Kingston, RI 02881, tel. 401-792-2791). UMass nematode samples should be sent to Dr. Robert Wick (Fernald Hall, UMass, Amherst, MA 01003, tel. 413-545-2280). All diagnostic fees paid at UMass are used for laboratory supplies and equipment and do not contribute to salaries.

MEETING NOTES

All those of you who didn't participate in the Memorial Tournament (Scholarship & Benevolence) missed a great time. Poquoy Brook G.C. was in spectacular condition, thanks to Charlie Dickow and his staff. The weather, hospitality, food, and golf was outstanding! It's unfortunate that more superintendents didn't participate in this event that could directly benefit them. Thank you, Charlie and staff!

TOURNEY RESULTS

Golf results from the Third Annual Scholarship & Benevolence Fund / Memorial Tournament at Poquoy Brook G.C., May 22:
Net: 62 - Norman & David Mucciarone; 64 - Tome Rowell & Jack Cronin; 64 - Dave Comee & J. Havens; 64 - Dave Devin & D. Dufresne; 65 - Bob Healy & Mr. Vigilito; 65 - Steve Butler & D. Lahan; 65 - Joe Rybka & Len Blodgett. **Gross:** 71 - Jack Hasset & R. Costello; 72 - Rich Tworig & Dennis Friel. **Closest to Pin:** J. Havens & Ron Smith. **Long Drive:** Chris Tufts.

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Turf Research Open House Aug. 3; Athletic Turf Field Day Aug. 9

Turf Research Open House Aug. 3 in S. Deerfield, Mass.

On Thursday, August 3, 1995, the University of Massachusetts Turf Program will host an Open House at the UMass Turf Research Facility in South Deerfield, Mass. Registration begins at 9 a.m., with Open House activities commencing at 10 a.m. These will include an opportunity to meet with Turf Program researchers and staff, tour the facility, learn about research activities underway, view renovations and

Meet the Bluegrass Weevil . . . *continued from page 6*

to the aprons on greens or other areas maintained at cutting heights of 1/4 - 1/2". Turfgrass at cutting heights of 1.5" or higher are not affected. If a second application is needed for second generation adults, timing of control should be on or around July 4. It is more difficult to time insecticide treatments for the second generation since adult activity is spread out over several weeks. Small larvae are present during the last two weeks of July and into early August. Second generation larvae rarely warrant a control spray (except as noted above). Check annual bluegrass crowns on turf cut at 1/4 - 1/2".

**From Turf Notes,
March/April 1995**

new plantings, and get a hands-on look at both parasitic and beneficial nematodes. Registration fee includes a lunch which will be served at noon.

The UMass Turf Research Facility Open House will be held rain or shine. Pesticide recertification and applicator contact hours will be available for Massachusetts applicators; recertification credit has been requested from the other New England states.

Following the Open House, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., there will be a Turf Integrated Pest Management Scouting Workshop on site at the Turf Research Facility. Topics will include recognition and identification of turf problems, scouting and management techniques for turf insects as well as identification and management of weeds. Massachusetts pesticide recertification and applicator contact hours will be available. Pesticide recertification credits have been requested from the other New England States.

For registration information contact Mary Owen, UMass Extension, (608) 892-0382.

Athletic Turf Field Day Aug. 9 in Springfield, Mass.

The University of Massachusetts Extension Turf Program, the New England Sports Turf Managers Association and Western New England College will host the 4th Annual Athletic Turf Management Field Day on Wednesday, August 9, 1995.

The Field Day will be held on the campus of Western New England College in Springfield, Mass. Mark Altman, athletic field consultant, will be the featured speaker. Altman, who has been involved in the development and management of a variety of projects nationwide, will discuss the design and installation of athletic fields.

Outdoor demonstrations scheduled to date include topdressing of fields with a variety of machines, grooming of infields, results of use of turf growth regulators, and use of remote control units for operating irrigation heads and zones. Bruce Robbins, head groundskeeper for WNEC, will lead walking tours of the campus. Exhibitors from all aspects of athletic turf management and related products will be on hand to discuss and demonstrate their products.

The Athletic Turf Field Day is designed to provide athletic field managers and crews from both public and private facilities, as well as municipalities, with the opportunity to learn about the latest in technology, products, and equipment, as well as to network with colleagues. The NESTMA will also hold its annual meeting and election of officers during the day.

Registration begins at 8:30 a.m., and the program runs until 3 p.m. Pre-registration is required: deadline is July 28, 1995. Registration fee includes morning coffee and lunch. The Field Day will be held rain or shine.

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