



THE NEWSLETTER

October 2000

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.

Material from the world's biggest divot to shape the rolling fairways at Quarry Hills

From the wilds of Borneo to the manhole-sized divots of the Big Dig, that's the odyssey from which Gary Kessener has emerged on his way to plunging into one of the more ambitious sporting site projects these parts have seen in the last century.

The project is a 450-acre mix of soccer fields, baseball diamonds, golf courses, and assorted frills like a world-class hotel/conference center and a ribbon of 370 low-rise town houses. This attractive collection of residences and facilities calls itself Quarry Hills. It's located at the junctions of Rtes. 3, 93 and 128 in an area where the city and town lines of Quincy and Milton embrace.

"This thing is so complicated. I've been all over the world helping on the completion of other similar efforts. This exceeds anything in my resume. It's staggering."

Gary Kessener
Quarry Hills

The Big Dig's involvement is crucial. Its excavation material, screened according to environmental standards, serves as the sub-base for the entire spread. It's expected that almost 13 tons of Big Dig excavate will be used. It will be built up by one foot of clay, a layer of glacial (clean) material, and finally a topping of rich planting soil.

Kessener, who signed on as superintendent of construction for the golf course, says the overall conception of the project awes even a person of his background and experience. "This thing is so complicated," he offered. "I've been all over the world helping the completion of other similar efforts. This exceeds anything in my resume. It's staggering."

That resume, by the way, reads like the index of a geography textbook. Gary's work has touched down in France, Tunisia, Thailand, Malaysia, Japan, Taiwan, Argentina, South Korea, Portugal, Borneo, and of course, the USA. In fact, one of his American stops brought him back to his hometown of Hingham in 1988 when he was construction superintendent and clerk of works for the rehabilitation and renovation of the South Shore Country Club.

Kessener really got into it there. His input included remodeling of greensites, teeing areas, and fairway bunkers. His involvement continued in rebuilding a pump station, repairing the original irrigation system to bring it up to correct operating standards, and planting of new turfgrass. So he carried a big load in that endeavor.

Quarry Hills, however, is sure to test his extensive skills. The course will consist of three nine-hole layouts with parts of the playing grounds in Quincy and other parts in neighboring Milton. Actually, the city and town land are capped landfills, provided by the principal leasees of the project, Quarry Hills Associates. Thus, the entire area has turned into one, giant landfill. Capping the Quincy and Milton landfills is part of the 50-year lease agreed upon by the parties.

Regardless, Kessener sees a long road ahead before a tee shot is struck or a putt is dropped. The optimistic hope is that nine holes will be seeded by this fall and some kind of opening (number of holes still undetermined) will take place in 2002.

There is no holdup in that opening date, either, since the idea for the project goes

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THE NEWSLETTER

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back to 1991 when local residents Charles "Chuck" Geilich and Bill O'Connell, two of the principals, marched into the Quincy mayor's office with their plan for a recreational center. Later they took the same steps to Milton officials who were interested. Thus, the long process of legal bartering began.

The Big Dig, construction of a central artery and access to the Ted Williams Tunnel, was to become a convenient coincidence for the Quarry Hills project. The Dig had to get rid of its excavate and entered into a win-win situation with Quarry Hills. It paid the associates in excess of 10 million dollars to drop off its material in what comprised a short trip between the sites. In fact, it would have cost the artery project much more to haul its material elsewhere.

The golf course is the focal project of the Quarry Hills project and figures to join the ranks of other outstanding layouts. For one thing, it inspires a view of indescribable proportions. The course is located on the highest ground just seven miles from downtown Boston. It overlooks the entire City of Boston to the north and Boston Harbor to the east. The views to the south and west zero in on the Blue Hills Reservation, a wilderness state park of over 30,000 acres.

John Sanford, a Massachusetts native, is the course architect. Sanford is responsible for the design of over 25 golf courses in the United States and abroad. Most observers believe Quarry Hills will become his signature course due to its breathtaking views and strong potential for challenge.

One of the holes will bring out the best in some players, the beast in others. From the championship tees, it requires a carry of 185 yards over a water hazard and is also guarded by another water hazard just off the rear of the green. Average players, however, won't have to face such a frightening situation because tees will run from providing a shorter carry over the water to one that offers a journey parallel to the hazard.

At the moment Kessener's contribution is contingent on the delivery of material from the Big Dig. Its delivery is ongoing and is into its fourth year. Over 1000 truckloads a day have been dropped at the golf course site as the placing of

material continues in phases. And, as Kessener gets room to roll his equipment, he transfers each hole from the master construction model to its spot in the actual lineup.

"As I said, this is a complicated deal," Gary remarked. "We're making golf building history as we construct the course on history since some of the material was used to shape Boston Harbor a hundred years ago. Quarry Hills and the Big Dig are partners in what both sides hope will be perfection."

GERRY FINN

CALENDAR . . .

- October 18 **John Shanahan Memorial Pro/Supt. Tournament***
Willowbend Country Club
Mashpee, Mass.
Supt. - Mark Casey
(*Register through NEPGA)
- November 6 **GCSANE Monthly Meeting Annual 9-Hole Meeting**
Lexington Country Club
Lexington, Mass.
Supt. - Len Curtin
- Nov. 14 **GCSAA Seminar**
Integrated Environmental Mgmt.
The International Golf Club
Bolton, Mass.
- Nov. 15 **GCSAA Seminar**
Turfgrass Traffic Stress Mgmt.
The International Golf Club
Bolton, Mass.
- December 4 **GCSANE Monthly Meeting**
Thorny Lea Golf Club
Brockton, Mass
Supt. - Joe Rybka, CGCS
- December 9 **GCSANE Christmas Party**
Essex County Club
Essex, Mass.
Host - Pat Kriksceonaitis
- January 15 **GCSANE Annual Meeting**
Walpole Country Club
Walpole, Mass.
Supt. - Brian Walters
- Feb. 11-18, 2001 **GCSAA 72nd International Golf Course Conference & Show**
Dallas, Texas
- February 13 **Stockbridge School Job Fair**
UMass, Amherst, Mass.
- February (Date TBA) **GCSANE Monthly Meeting**
Franklin Country Club
Franklin, Mass.
Supt. - Gary Luccini
- March 7-9 **New England Regional Turfgrass Conference & Show**
Providence, R.I.

The Super Speaks Out

This month's question: *With the national association concerned with the subject of marketing the golf course superintendent, what are your ideas on what you can do to market yourself and the profession?*

David Huss, Groton Country Club:

"I know what we're talking about here. It has something to do with image or how my members view me as a professional. You have to wonder sometimes. Am I looked upon as just a turf farmer?"

"If I am, I'm sure that description will change. I'm working on a public relations agenda. I've been here, and it is a nine-hole semi-private course, for two full seasons and I think that players here are approachable.

"I'm thinking in terms of a hands-on approach. I've decided that the superintendent has to be his own PR man. By that I'm all for speaking up when I come in contact with a member. Ask him how the round is going. Get into a spirit of casual conversation. In other words, let him or her know who you are and what you do on the course. Maybe even why you do it.

"I don't know. Do I sound like a politician? Like I'm running for office or something? Actually, it could be a hard sell because as a superintendent you don't have the opportunity for many of those casual conversations. It's not like being the Pro. Players pass through his office every day. I'm stuck away from player action unless I happen to be around the clubhouse when the club is busy.

"Whatever the case, there are a lot of ways a superintendent can market himself. I think a 'Meet the Super Week' might be a good idea to get things going. I've even thought of making a video, showing what I can do and what the crew does to keep the course in shape.

"Regardless of what the national comes up with, I believe we have to do most of the selling ourselves. We can't do our jobs, when hide somewhere. We have to establish ourselves as valuable assets of the club. What it takes is a little initiative. That's the key."

Dick Zepp, CGCS, Cyprian Keyes Golf Club:

"You can say all you want about pushing yourself into position where you go one-on-one with your golfers so that they can get a better idea of just what the superintendent does and how valuable his contributions to the course are.

THE SUPER SPEAKS

"Sounds nice. But . . . but I think we're in kind of a Catch-22 situation. How can we establish more contact with our golfers when it's one of our goals to get out of the way when we're doing our jobs on the course? You know, golfers don't like to see the course being groomed or improved. They want that, don't get me wrong, but they'd sooner it happen without watching it happen.

"Overall, I think golfers have a good idea of what we contribute to the success of their contact with the course. We're a public course and it's a little different from a private course where members seem to promote the super and how important he is to golf course operations. At the public courses, we have to do that promoting by ourselves and sometimes that's not too easy.

"As for organizational involvement, I'm of the opinion that the PGA does a better job of promoting the golf professional that our national does with us. One, I think the importance of certification should be emphasized as a definite plus for not only the superintendent but also the club or course that hires him. Second, our national TV ads have to focus on what the individual superintendent does to produce those beautiful courses the touring pros play. People should know who's responsible for the condition of

those courses. That would be a boost for the profession.

"In the end, I guess you do what you have to do. Some courses have owners who are well aware of the superintendent's importance in the overall operation. Members and other golfers are coming around to that kind of mentality, but sometimes they need to be clued in on the situation. Then it's up to us to blow our own horns, so to speak. It's a tough sell. We're in the middle. We're supposed to sell ourselves but disappear doing it. Yeah. Catch-22. That's the name of the game in our public relations attempts."

Bruce Packard, CGCS, The Stockbridge Club:

"Sad to say, there's a certain percentage of my members who look at me as a blue collar worker. I'm the one who has the grass-cutting job. I don't think that will ever change. Maybe the number looking at me that way will change and decrease, but the stigma is there.

"I think it's up to us to do things to promote ourselves as individuals. I know that I keep my board informed of what advancements I'm making in education for the purpose of doing my job better or doing what they'd like. But as far as the board goes, most of them realize what I do around here, what I'm responsible for, and what I did to give them the best possible playing conditions.

"I have a little public relations push I use here. I make sure I'm around the golf course when my members are on the course. I want them to see me and know that I'm here using my expertise to make playing their round more enjoyable from the point of course playability.

"As for the national, I think they've missed the boat. They pump money into TV ads but they don't feature the superintendents. They should explain what a certified superintendent is and what he did to earn the title. Our golfers are watching. They're the people the ads should hit. The PGA does it right. But I don't see it happening for the superintendent. Even the fact they're (the national) researching this thing (marketing) is a lot of baloney. They have the tools to promote their product and their product is us."

GERRY FINN

Introducing our new web site: www.gcsane.org

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of New England has finally joined the 21st century with the introduction of its new web site. That's right, GCSANE is now on-line. Getting there is simple. All you need to do is enter www.gcsane.org. Be sure to bookmark the page when you get there, as we are sure you will want to visit often.

GCSANE NEWS

What is on this site, you ask? Well certainly a lot of the same information you get in this Newsletter, but in a more timely fashion. There will be a Calendar of Events that will give detailed information of meeting sites, times, and agenda. The directions to the site will also be included. If you happen to lose that little postcard (who hasn't?), you can easily get the same info off the web page.

A detailed list of job opportunities is a natural for the site. While you will all still receive the postcard, those same employment listings will be available for you on-line. In the future, we hope to have a form you can fill out that will send your position available information directly to our Executive Secretary, Sharon Brownell.

One item we see as a popular one is the Tournament Results section. You will be able to see who won the latest superintendent tournament and all the tournaments for the year. Results will be there for immediate viewing. We also hope to have photographs of members and the golf course here.

The other sections include Education (where there will be a detailed list of GCSAA courses), *The Newsletter* (which will include some Divot Drift-style

While this web site will not be replacing the Newsletter any time soon, it will be an excellent source for information you can use quickly and as an association reference.

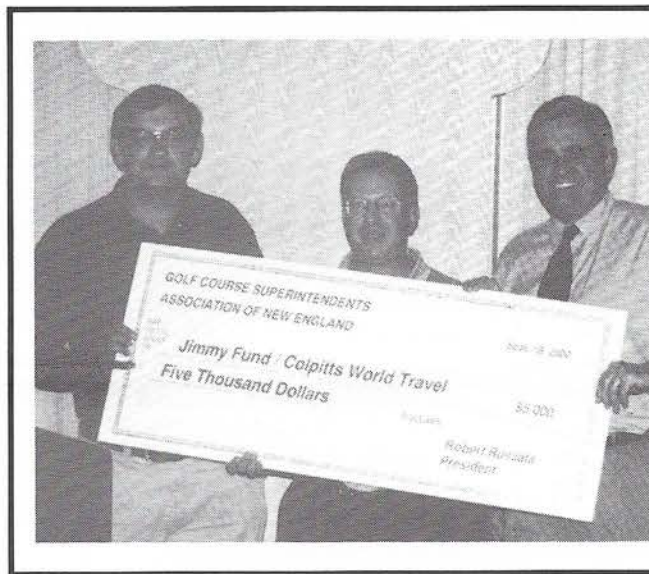
information), the President's Message, a Board of Directors list, and a page where you can link directly to Friends sites and other turf management-related sites.

As for the Friends of the Association, please be sure to e-mail your site address to us so we can put it on the links page.

While this web site will not be replacing the Newsletter any time soon, it will be an excellent source for information you can use quickly and as an association reference. What you see is only the first generation web

site. In the future, we hope to install more functions and give more information. This web site is like any golf course: it is a work in progress. The possibilities are tremendous.

Feedback for this new venture is both necessary and welcome. You are all encouraged to give your views on the product, whether a lengthy diatribe or a short note, via e-mail. To offer any views, input, feedback, or whatever, please send your e-mail to us at webmaster@gcsane.org. We will appreciate all responses.



GCSANE supports Jimmy Fund Tournament

GCSANE President Bob Ruzala (left) presents GCSANE's \$5,000 Jimmy Fund donation to Alan Krensky (center), and Colpitts World Travel. The 11th Annual Jimmy Fund Golf Tournament was held Sept. 18 at Nashawtuc Country Club in Concord, Mass.

GCSANE president expands on latest news about holiday party and new web site

I am pleased to announce that the GCSANE annual Christmas Party will be held Sat., Dec. 9 at the Essex County Club. The host for this event will be Pat Kriksceonaitis. We have been able to set the cost at \$90 per couple. We are asking the Friends of the Association to please help defray the costs of this affair. If there is a company that would like to help us out, please contact Mike Hermanson, Dave Comee, Pat Kriksceonaitis, or myself. Everyone will receive a mailing in November with more specific information about the party.

The association web site is now up and running. Thank you to Russell Heller for all of his hard work in establishing this site. Please be sure to check it out, as

there will be a good amount of relevant information available. Included will be links to Friends of the Association web

FROM THE PRESIDENT

pages and other allied organizations. It is also important that you tell us what you think of the site. Please e-mail any of the board of directors and let us know. This web page is in its infancy, and we want to make it a good communication link to our membership. So please tell us if there is any way we can improve the product you see now.

Sincerely, Bob Ruzala
President, GCSANE



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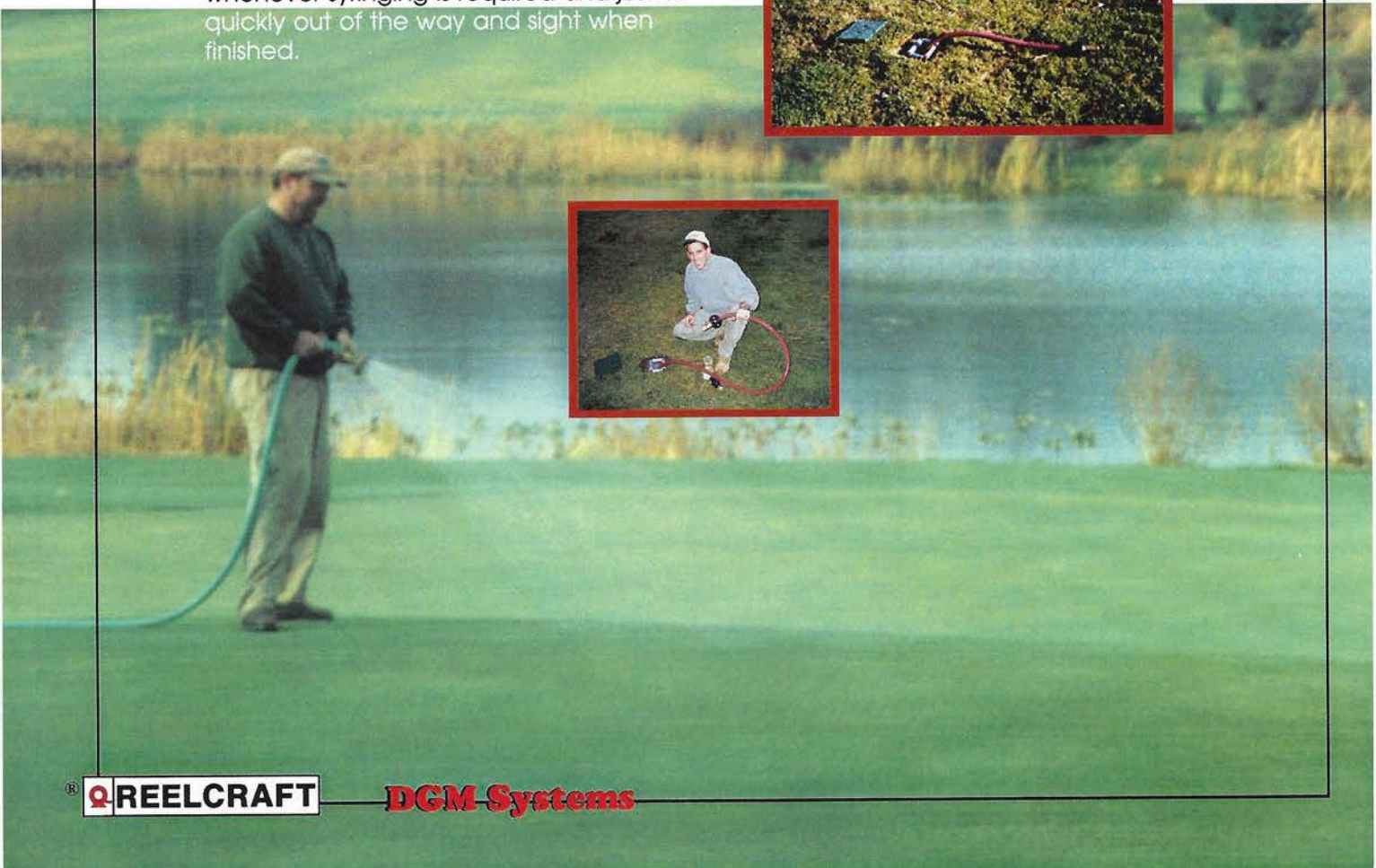
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- **More professional look** for golf course; do not have to drag hoses from green or leave hoses on sides of fairways and greens.
- Irrigation system can be **pressurized to act as a blower for leaves** and other debris on greens; this will save time and allow for a much more effective mowing process (system water must be blown out and hooked-up to a compressor).
- Maximizes **labor efficiency** by making the job easier and less burdensome to greenskeepers (takes out the monotony of the job).
- Hand watering vs. sprinkler watering will give a **more even and / or isolated watering distribution** to the green; more effective and higher quality application will preserve and protect the green from bad exposures.
- Provides the resources to **react timely in urgent situations** such as extreme heat stress, dry conditions, and possible hydraulic oil leaks.

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Conn. board member reports on GCSAA vision

By Tim O'Neill, CGCS, Country Club of Darien

People are always asking me, "So how is it being on the GCSAA Board?" And my answer is, as I believe it always will be, "It's been great!" Truthfully, I've learned a lot about GCSAA, and it's strengthened my belief in the association's mission. I have a tremendous amount of respect for my fellow board members and the GCSAA staff.

GCSAA NEWS

The biggest challenges have been time away – and weathering the frustrations of travel. But, then, after a recent flight out of Chicago airport, I realized that no matter how trying a trip might be, things could always be worse. I was chatting with the pilot about our expected weather adventures, and he proceeded to tell me how lucky I was that I hadn't been at O'Hare the day before when they evacuated the control tower after spotting a funnel that resembled a tornado! So yes, things could always be worse.

Speaking of tornadoes, I just returned from a whirlwind tour that included a trip to Denver for the summer GCSAA board meeting and a stop at GCSAA headquarters in Lawrence, Kansas, for a day-and-a-half meeting with the Student Resource Group.

I thought you might be interested in some of the topics we discussed, not the least of which are GCSAA's ambitious plans for the future. Here are the highlights.

At the Board Meeting

Like most GCSAA board meetings, this one-day session included a full agenda, which began with the customary reports from the officers and a review of the

association finances. We also acted on a number of issues. We approved:

- the association environmental mission, goals, and strategies
- regulations regarding caddies and spectators during the GCSAA golf championship
- sponsorship opportunities and potential sponsors

Then we batted around a number of other hot topics. On the list were:

- the Professional Development Initiative (PDI)
- enhancements to the Speakers Bureau Program
- the association internet strategy
- the association's upcoming 75th anniversary celebration

- Golf Course Management magazine's standard operating procedures and coverage of the Conference and Show

Looking Ahead to 2005

In addition, we reviewed the association's Mission and Vision, which the board approved last October and which projects ahead for the next five years.

The Mission Statement has changed slightly. It used to read, "GCSAA is dedicated to serving its members, advancing their profession, and enriching the quality of golf and the environment." With a slight shift

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EPA & Army Corps of Engineers propose changes to Clean Water Act

The Environmental Protection Agency and the Army Corps of Engineers have proposed a change in Clean Water Act regulations that would clarify the types of activities that can harm wetlands and require regulation.

"Due to a legal loophole, an additional 20,000 acres of wetlands have been lost in this country over the last two years," said EPA Administrator Carol M. Browner. "This proposal will allow us to go as far as we can through administrative reforms to close this loophole and protect wetlands. We also call on Congress to strengthen the Clean Water Act to fully protect and restore America's wetlands."

The proposal would regulate certain activities that often destroy or fill in wetlands by clarifying current regulations under the Clean Water Act, Section 404, to address environmentally destructive earth-

moving activities such as mechanized land clearing, ditching, channelization, and in-stream mining associated with draining wetlands.

GOVT. RELATIONS

Under Section 404, the Corps issues permits after it completes a review of dredged material from proposed projects, including the potential adverse effects on wetlands. This is designed to minimize environmental impact on wetlands, and require off-setting actions like creating or restoring other wetlands.

Since the late 1700s, over half the nation's wetlands have been lost to development and other activities. Seven states have lost more than 80 percent of their original wetlands. More recently, EPA and the Corps estimate that since a 1997 court ruling on the Clean Water Act, nearly 20,000 acres of wetlands have been destroyed and more than 150 miles of streams have been channeled without environmental review or mitigation.

The proposal to change the definition of dredged materials will be published in the Federal Register soon and will be open for public comment for 60 days. A fact sheet on the proposal is available at: <http://www.epa.gov/owow/wetlands/dredgedmat/2tulfsf.html>, or call the wetlands helpline at 800-832-7828.

GCSAA Education

Integrated Environmental Management

November 14, 2000, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
The International Golf Club, Bolton, Mass.

Member Fee: \$110; Non-Member Fee: \$165
CEUs: 0.7; Code: 01RS159-01

Turfgrass Traffic Stress: Physiology & Management

November 15, 2000, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
The International Golf Club, Bolton, Mass.

Member Fee: \$110; Non-Member Fee: \$165
CEUs: 0.7; Code: 01RS190-01

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GCSAA's vision . . . from page 5

in focus it now says, "GCSAA is dedicated to serving its members, advancing their profession, and enhancing the enjoyment, growth, and vitality of the game of golf."

Taking into account this mission, GCSAA's vision for the year 2005 includes seeing that:

- employers will recognize superintendents as the key to the economic vitality of the facility
- golfers will recognize superintendents as the key to the enjoyment of the game the golf community, environmental community, public policy makers, and society will recognize GCSAA as leading the golf community's commitment to protecting and enhancing the environment
- GCSAA members and others in the golf industry will recognize GCSAA as the authoritative source for information and education related to golf course management and will participate in GCSAA programs at record levels

GCSAA has already set in motion strategies for realizing this vision. You'll probably recognize some of them:

- continuing the development and appropriate implementation of the Professional Development Initiative

- capitalizing on the potential of technology, both internally and externally
- aligning chapter and GCSAA initiatives

As an association, goals for 2005 include:

- increasing membership from approximately 21,000 to 30,000, while securing memberships from superintendents from 80 percent of the golf courses in the country strengthening GCSAA's environmental leadership role among golf and environmental constituents
- building partnerships with leaders of allied golf associations
- becoming a greater presence in turf-related research
- becoming a recognized authority on information and issues related to golf course development, management, and operations by further developing the Conference & Show and use of the internet to deliver information and services
- positioning GCSAA as a dynamic and responsive organization by establishing a greater connection between GCSAA and its members and chapters

The entire Association Plan 2005 was mailed to chapter presidents, newsletter editors, and GCSAA committee members. If you're not among this group and would like a copy of this plan, feel free to contact

Russell Heller at Chelmsford C.C. (978-256-5664). Remember, you could also find the outcomes of all our board meetings in the "Members Only" section of the GCSAA website at www.gcsaa.org.

Student Resource Group Meeting

Following the board meeting, I was off to Lawrence for my meeting with the Student Resource Group. As chairman of the group, it's my responsibility to lead discussions about services and programs available to our student members.

The group consisted of 12 student members from across the country. For each, it was their first trip to our association headquarters. Most of the group members were either presidents or officers of their individual student chapters. Although some were still trying to determine their ultimate career path, most felt they would be superintendents about five years after they graduated. One mentioned wanting to be a director of golf for a large facility.

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

MEMBERSHIP

Welcome New Members: Michael Varkonyi, Supt., Reservation G.C.; Scott Pierce, Supt., Franconia G.C.; James Small, Supt., Olde Scotland Links G.C.; Matthew Hayes, Asst., Woodland G.C.; Michael Isleb, Asst., Wellesley C.C.; Erick Koskinen, Supt., Wayland C.C.; Joel Miller, Asst., Mt. Pleasant C.C.; Doug Dondero, Affiliate, R.F. Morse & Sons; David Antunes, Affiliate, Bruedan Corp.

INFORMATION

Scott Mackintosh has left Simplot Partners and is now with Eco Soil Systems.

Thanks to Jim Conant, head pro Brad Benson, and the entire staff of the Country Club of Pittsfield for hosting the September Team-of-Two Championship.

A big "Thank You" is also necessary for the staff and crew at Mt. Pleasant Country Club for hosting the Individual Championship in October. Those people include Todd Sauer, Mike Guibord, head pro Joe Staffieri, and manager Chuck Wright.

It seems the duo of Mike Iacono and Mark Daly were the big winners in this year's event at Quechee. Talk about a pair beating a full house ...

Speaking of Mark Daly, he has left TPC and is now a sales rep for SBI Turf.

EMPLOYMENT

Superintendent. The Candida Woods Golf Links is seeking a qualified individual for the superintendent position. Applicant should be familiar with the use and rates of pesticides and fertilizers, have the aptitude to oversee a crew of 15 or more, and be able to operate a Toro LTC irrigation system. The applicant should possess a two or four-year degree in Turf Management or related field, have 2-4 years experience as a superintendent or assistant, have the ability to obtain a New Hampshire pesticide applicator's license, and have a valid drivers license. Compensation includes salary, health insurance, and use of a company vehicle. Send resume by October 31 to Tom Lloyd, Candida Woods Golf Links, 313 South Road, Candida, NH 03034.

TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Team-of-Two Championship
Country Club of Pittsfield, Pittsfield, Mass.
September 25, 2000
6095 yards, par 71

Superintendent Division
1st Low Gross: Mike Hermanson, Dave Comee (73)
1st Low Net: Dave Stowe, Russell Heller (65)
2nd Low Net: Conor Fitzgerald, Dave Vanderklish (66)

Affiliate Division

1st Low Gross: Chris Cowan*, Andy Langlois (77)
1st Low Net: Charlie Downing, Roy Sibley (68)
2nd Low Net: Robin Hayes, Bob Healey (68)

* (This just goes to show what you can do when you team up with a good player.)

Individual Championship

Mt. Pleasant Country Club, Boylston, Mass.
October 2, 2000
6765 yards, par 72

Superintendent Division
1st Low Gross: Ron Dobosz (79)
2nd Low Gross: Chris Tufts (80)
1st Low Net: Joe Rybka (71)
2nd Low Net: Mike Hermanson (72)

Affiliate Division

1st Low Gross: David Antunes (80)
2nd Low Gross: Tom Fox (82)
1st Low Net: Ken Mooradian (72)
2nd Low Net: Larry Anshewitz (73)

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Meet host superintendent Todd Sauer, Mount Pleasant C.C.

Host superintendent for the October meeting of GCSANE is Todd Sauer of Mt. Pleasant Country Club in Boylston, Mass.

Todd, a 14-year GCSANE member, has been the superintendent at Mt. Pleasant since 1995. He had previously worked there as assistant superintendent under the famed James Beane, beginning in 1986.

He graduated from Fitchburg State College in 1984 with a B.S. in industrial

technology. Two years later he attended the UMass Winter School program, receiving a certificate in turfgrass management.

HOST PROFILE

Todd recently celebrated his 13th anniversary with his wife, Jean. They live in Boylston with their five-year-old daughter Kristen. When not working or

spending quality time at home, Todd enjoys woodworking and golfing.

Mt. Pleasant C.C. was designed by William Mitchell and was organized in 1956. It is a challenging course, playing over 6400 yards, with a slope of 130. The 4300 sq. ft. greens consist of velvet bentgrass. Fairways and tees are a mixture of rye, poa, and bent. The 40 acres of rough are bluegrass and rye.

GCSAA's vision . . . from page 6

Several also mentioned achieving certification as one of their goals.

A number of them discussed the frustration of running a student chapter and getting participation and commitment from other turf students. The resource group reviewed most all student programs and made recommendations for improvement. We also discussed:

- ways to create and enhance student/superintendent chapter relationships
- enhancements to the student newsletter, *Student Links*
- website information related to students

Students also heard Steve Mona, CEO, talk about the status and future of the association, and Sandy Queen, CGCS, a member of the Membership Standards Resource Group, discuss the final PDI proposal.

After a tour of headquarters and a day-and-a-half of discussions, the students headed home charged up and ready to leap into the profession.

I left feeling good about these students' enthusiasm for turfgrass management and their commitment to the industry.

(This article appeared in *Tee to Green*, a publication of the Metropolitan GCSA, and is used with permission.)

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