



THE NEWSLETTER

December 2001

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.

Past president Ron Kirkman has upbeat view of professional changes since his '80-'81 tenure

Having been tapped as unofficial spokesman for his group, Ron Kirkman, as usual, has a lot to say. His spin-off contemporaries from the ranks of an exclusive band of golf course superintendents (past presidents of GCSANE) are in a reactivation mood. They'd like to be heard when it comes to matters concerning the operation of an association they've helped popularize and perpetuate.

"Oh, we're not trying to take over," Kirkman explained. "That's the last thing we'd want to do. As far as we're able to see, the profession has never been in better hands. The guys running the association do a great job. It's even harder to do than when I was president back in 1980 and '81.

"However, some of us feel we've stored a wealth of knowledge as a group. After all, most of us have pretty good track records. It's not a given, but we may have something to contribute. I'm all for having a meeting of past presidents at least once a year. Something may come out of it. Who knows?" (The past presidents have scheduled a meeting as part of GCSANE's Annual Meeting in January.)

Away from being part of this so-called revival movement, Kirkman has only nice things to say about the state of the profession.

"The way I look at it, everything in the association is going well," Ron observed. "It's much more difficult to run things now than 20, 30 or 40 years ago. It's simply a more complicated field as part of a more complicated world. There are more issues to address and less time to address them.

"Golf is just a busy sport, and getting busier all the time. The people in charge are meeting that upswing with quality effort and continuing efficiency. Frankly I like the way we look to the rest of the golf world."

Ron Kirkman, Needham G.C.

"Again, everything is bigger and more involved. There are more golf courses and more superintendents. That means there are more members of country clubs, more players on public courses and more problems to solve. It's so sophisticated it's almost a necessity that aspiring supers have at least two years of college before they even think of making a career of golf course maintenance.

"It wasn't that way then I was starting out, but nowadays there are just too many responsibilities tied to the superintendent's job for someone to meet without a large dose of formal education. I know a lot of guys think everyone can get along on experience alone, but that's not true. Our group is emphasizing education and I'm with that kind of thinking all the way."

Kirkman pointed to the changes in equipment and maintenance strategy that have come into vogue in recent times. "All you have to do is look at some of the operating budgets the superintendent has to oversee to realize the change in how the job has to be done," he said. "Now, we have mechanical technicians, not just mechanics. We also have irrigation special-

ists, pesticide application experts, and even one, two, and three assistant superintendents."

With this expansive working landscape there also comes a higher end in demands by club members. Obviously, Kirkman's aware of these.

"Modern day demands are also something I can see and live with," Ron noted. "From day one golfers have had ongoing

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THE NEWSLETTER

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***"Members of today
know you can't drink
champagne and have
a beer pocketbook."***

**Ron Kirkman
Needham G.C.**

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feelings that course conditions should be better. But there's a difference between the member of back then and the member in the here and now. This member is more demanding but is also willing to pay for the cost of meeting demands. It's all related to education. Members of today know you can't drink champagne and have a beer pocketbook."

Kirkman always has been an upbeat person with a comedic mentality that apparently has been passed on to his daughter, Jennifer. She is a struggling comedienne in the making but working hard to make big strides in her quest to reach the top.

Jennifer lives in Brooklyn but spent much of December on the road where she also worked spots like the Largo Comedy Club in Los Angeles and The Improv on Sunset Strip. She also taped a show called "Late Friday", which was scheduled to air on NBC at the end of December.

Also on the hard road to stardom are gigs like stints on TV's Comedy Central Network, a performance in the Toyota Comedy Festival, an appearance on the Cartoon Network and, closer to home, shows at the Comedy Studio in Harvard Square. So, Jennifer's been busy polishing her act in front of a lot of fans and critics.

Ron and wife, Joan, spend much time playing the game, "Where Do Jennifer's Genes Come From?" Ah, it's almost turned into a feud.

"It all comes from me," piped Joan who has a prominent place in a local singing group and good reviews when she enjoyed star status in school plays. "Definitely, I'm the one Jennifer has to thank for all her talent."

"Uh-uh," retorted Ron, who once appeared opposite Joan when the two were fencing for applause in school plays at Tenney High School in Methuen where the loving couple met. "Joan's all wrong. I'm the one in the family with the big sense of humor. In fact, Jennifer and I have agreed that when she makes it to the top, I'm gonna resign and become her lawn maintenance man in Beverly Hills. Well, I only wish."

But that's another country heard from in the active life of a GCSANE past president with a mind for positive thinking when it comes to family, job and peers.

"As I said before, I'm definitely upbeat about our profession in general and our association in particular," Ron added. "Golf is just a busy sport, getting busier all the time. The people in charge are meeting that upswing with quality effort and continuing efficiency. Frankly, I like the way we look to the rest of the golf world."

GERRY FINN

CALENDAR . . .

- | | |
|------------|--|
| January 14 | GCSANE Annual Meeting
Ridder Farm G. & C.C.
Whitman, Mass.
Supt. - Ed Gianni |
| Feb. 3-10 | GCSAA 73rd International
Golf Course Conference & Show
Orlando, Fla. |
| Feb. 7-9 | New England Grows
Hynes Convention Center
Boston, Mass. |
| Feb. 12 | Stockbridge School Job Fair
University of Massachusetts
Amherst, Mass. |
| March 2 | MGA Spring Conference
Westin Hotel
Boston, Mass. |
| March 5-7 | New England Regional
Turfgrass Conference & Show
Providence, R.I. |
| March 21 | GCSANE Monthly Meeting
Jointly with USGA Seminar
The International G.C.
Bolton, Mass.
Supts. - Brett Johnson, CGCS
& Jim Whitley, CGCS |
| April | GCSANE Monthly Meeting
Juniper Hill G.C.
Northboro, Mass.
Supt. - Tom Ackley, CGCS |
| May 6 | Scholarship & Benevolence
Tournament
Belmont C.C.
Belmont, Mass.
Supt. - Arthur Silva, CGCS |

The Super Speaks Out

This month's question: *With the golf season behind and the area coming off a wild, stormy winter, how did the past year go for you?*

Paul Miller, CGCS, Nashawtuc Country Club: "I don't think I could have scripted a more difficult year for me as a golf course superintendent than the one that just passed. And, actually, most of my problems that happened to be focused on two greens, came about because of flooding when renovation there last fall backfired on us.

"Regardless, as the weather developed from winter through the following fall, it became a year of extremes. It started with the unheard of amounts of snow during the winter, to wet pockets in the spring, into humid conditions in summer and on to severe drought in the fall.

"It definitely was a year of reaction by superintendents. It made for tricky conditions. The super's knowledge, based on experience, know-how and continuing education, came into play.

"The troubles even passed another extreme for me, personally, when I lost my little finger in an accident. That just added to my woes and, like I said, I couldn't have dreamed up a worse year to have to produce a course where conditions came even close to normal.

"My saving grace in the most severely effected areas was deep tine aerating the preceding fall. What it did was create an air gap between the green and bottom of ice, giving the plant just enough nutrition to prevent wipeout.

"Another decision that helped the battle was bringing in a snow blower in March to clear cart paths, then eventually the greens so we could work on them. Incidentally, my son, John, handled the snow blower. He made it to every green with the blower distributing the snow evenly instead of making awkward piles.

"One other factor, which I think may have helped save some superintendent jobs, was the way the Boston media communicated with golfers in an effort to explain how the winter had turned into a nightmare for those people responsible for giving them reasonable playing conditions in spring and summer. I think they did an

incredible job at a critical time and they should be awarded accolades for giving superintendents an opportunity to put their acts together.

"Without hesitation, this was a golf season to remember . . . when almost all of us were put to the test. I don't want to see another one like it."

THE SUPER SPEAKS

Don Hearn, CGCS, Vesper Country Club: "I suppose I'd have to line up myself with the few fortunate superintendents who escaped a lot of damage when the weather went wacky last winter.

"Getting the handle on the reason why we didn't get hurt all that bad is something beyond my capacity for providing such answers. I came here in March and in my first year had few problems. Was it Vesper's time to be lucky? You tell me.

"Overall, then, it was an ordinary year for me with problems at the very minimum. The only adverse conditions came about because of an irrigation system that will be replaced starting around the first of October of next year (2002).

"The most popular question I seem to get these days is how I approached the possibility we'd have another winter like we did a year ago. I really didn't do anything other than to put down the same kind of preparation I've always put down wherever I've worked. In other words, I'm treating last winter as one of those freak happenings.

"One of my biggest concerns, one brought on by the unusually warm weather we had in late fall of this year is the occurrence of snow falling on unfrozen ground. That combination is a strong invitation to snow mold. If the plant isn't allowed to harden before it snows, chances are snow mold will show up in the spring. But, as for the winter past, I guess we just lucked out. The course was just as good as it has been. That's a happy sight for our golfers . . . and me."

Steve Thys, Worcester Country Club: "There's no other way to say it, this was a very tough year for me and for the course. It's all because of the unusual winter. The frequency of snow storms, the amount that dropped. I think, or at least it seemed that way, that every time it snowed the result was in the two-foot range.

"I had four greens that got hit pretty bad. They were in low drainage areas and the combination of thawing and low sun in the winter the greens would freeze back up just when we thought we were making some headway.

"The frustrating part came in early spring. Some greens looked good in that time period but gradually the moisture was sucked out of the ground and they went into a tan-black discoloration mode.

"The actual damage came from a combination of winterkill and snow mold. Even though we gave the severely damaged areas a very aggressive treatment, the hardest hit greens never got to full recovery throughout the golf season. In fact, they were still a little spotty when we got to late fall. The tees came back pretty good and the fairways recovered. But the greens? Of course, the fall drought didn't help.

"When I think back, there's really not much I could do. We gave those heavily damaged areas a ton of feeding and we tried one variety after another. It was just one of those years when problems piled up.

"My members were very understanding. They knew from that start of spring that this wasn't going to be a temporary thing. They and I realized that we had an unusual winter and the result would be unusual course conditions.

"This coming winter? I'm going into the same preparation as it approaches. I'll monitor it closely and act accordingly. That's all I can do."

GERRY FINN

Ruszala's last report is long on gratitude

This will be my last President's Report, because my term is up on January 14. My journey on the board of directors started in the fall of 1989 when Don Hearn, chairman of the nominating committee, asked me if I was interested in serving on the board, which I gratefully accepted. I am thankful to have had the opportunity to work with so many dedicated and hard-working board members over the years. GCSANE has grown tremendously over the years because of its great membership and leadership of which we are all a part. The past presidents are to be commended for their hard work and dedication in leading GCSANE to where it is today. Our membership is fantastic, and it has been a pleasure to serve you.

I have many "thank yous" to say, so here goes. To our membership, thanks for letting

me have the opportunity to represent you, and it has been an honor. To my owner Alden Johnson, manager Bill Bauer, and green chairman Gary Craig, thanks for being very supportive. To my assistant Mike Howell, mechanic John Bemben,

FROM THE PRESIDENT

and the rest of my staff, thank you for holding the fort when I was at many meetings. Thanks to my family – my wife Denise, son Paul, and daughter Jaclyn, whom I all love dearly and who put up with my many absentee suppers. Thanks to all the board members past and present that I have worked with and who have had tremendous dedication to GCSANE.

I have only limited space in writing this, but would like to comment now on the present Board of Directors:

Jim Fitzroy - GCSANE will be in good shape with your knowledge of GCSAA and professionalism as our next president.

Mike Iacono - Was requested to attend GCSAA meeting at Lawrence, Kansas on a Thursday and had to leave the next day, that's dedication.

Dan Higgins - Treasurer's report always up to date and very organized.

Dave Comee - Chairman of the Scholarship and Benevolence Tournament. We have almost \$100,000 in this account due to his hard work.

Pat Kriksceonaitis - Up-to-date information regarding government laws and regulations.

Robert Larson - Membership directory and services to all members in a timely fashion.

Art Silva - Keeps us in good financial shape.

Mike Hermanson - Always organized for golf events and setting up schedule for future.

Ron Dobosz - Keeps our winter meetings going with a good variety of speakers.

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GCSANE bylaw changes proposed

The following are the proposed changes to the GCSANE Bylaws. All proposed changes are in italics.

Page 21, Article XIII, Bylaw Amendments. These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the regular members present at any regular meeting of the association providing the amendments are held over for one meeting and the proposed amendments are included in the notice of said meeting.

GCSANE NEWS

Page 5, Article IV, Membership, Section 2 - Classes of Membership

I. There shall be seven classes of membership: Regular, Associate, Assistant, Honorary, Life, Affiliate, and Student.

I. There shall be nine classes of membership: Class AA - Life members, Class A - Golf Course Superintendent, Golf Course Superintendent, Class C - Assistant Golf Course Superintendent, Honorary, Affiliate, Associate, Student, and Inactive.

Section 3. Regular Members

Class A - Golf Course Superintendent

Section 4. Associate Members

Golf Course Superintendent

Section 5. Assistant Members

Class C - Assistant Golf Course Superintendent

Section 7. Life Members

Class AA - Life Members

Section 10. Inactive Member

I. An inactive member is an individual who, by reason of unemployment, illness or other adverse circumstances, has been placed in this class upon his or her application. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to act on such application and to place a member on Inactive status subject to terms and conditions as the Board of Directors may specify by Standing Rules.

Section 11, Associate Member

An Associate Member is an individual that is involved in the growing or production of fine turfgrass, and who does not qualify for membership in another category. He or she shall have all the privileges of the Association except to vote and to hold office. He or she shall pay such initiation fee and annual dues as established by the Association.

Page 19, Article IX, Meetings, Section 1

Regular meetings of the association shall be held monthly on a date approved by the Board of Directors.

Regular meetings of the Association shall be held on dates approved by the Board of Directors.

Revised nominees announced for 2002

GCSANE announces its officers and directors for 2002 as per its bylaws. Please note that these nominees are correct. They are slightly different than what appeared in the last issue of *The Newsletter*.

Nominating Committee: Chairman: Michael Hermanson; Members: Donald Hearn, CGCS; Michael Iacono, CGCS; David Barber, CGCS; and Roy Mackintosh.

Nominees: President, James R. Fitzroy, CGCS; Vice President, Michael J. Hermanson; Secretary, Ronald P. Dobosz, Jr.; Treasurer, Michael V. Iacono, CGCS; Trustee, Patrick S. Kriksceonaitis; Finance Chairman, Arthur Silva, CGCS; Golf Chairman, David Comee; Education Chairman, Patrick Daly, CGCS; and Newsletter Chairman, Ken Crimmings.

N.E. Regional Turfgrass Conference & Show set to display 'What's New For Turf in 2002'

This year's conference and show will be offering everything we had in the past (trade show with wide range of products, bookstore, receptions, trade show lunch for multi-day registrants, nine hole raffle, three days of education) and more! TURF 2002 will also include many new and interesting additions:

Our keynote speaker this year is Scott O'Grady, who was a U.S. Air Force fighter pilot who was shot down over Bosnia. He has written a book titled *Return With Honor*. Many who attended last year's GCSAA Conference in Dallas heard Captain O'Grady's story and were awestruck by the experience.

This year will include a Silent Auction with items that are donated to the newly formed NERTRT (New England Regional Turfgrass Research Trust). Participants will be able to write in bids for items, products, funds of golf, etc. during the show. All

proceeds will go into the research trust to be used for ongoing University Research to benefit the turfgrass industry.

NERTF NEWS

There will also be new seminars before and after the show. This year we have scheduled three GCSAA half-day seminars on Monday, March 4 and one on March 7.

1. "Preparing Your Golf Course for Tournaments", taught by John Miller, CGCS, The Golf Club of Yankee Trace, Centerville, Ohio (8-12 noon).
2. "Shaded Greens: Turf, Trees, and Politics", taught by Dr. James Baird, USGA Green Section, Eaton, Pa. and Mr. Scott Robinson, ArborCom Technologies, Shelburne, Nova Scotia (1-5pm).
3. "Sprayer Calibration and Drift Management", taught by Dr. Robert Wolf,

Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kan. (1-5pm).

Thursday, March 7th from 1-5pm: "Weed Management In Ornamentals", taught by Dr. John Boyd, University of Arkansas, Little Rock, Ark. (1-5pm)

For more information or to download a registration form for these seminars go to the show website (www.nertf.org) or call our office at (401) 841-5490.

Included with these opportunities will also be a "new" putting challenge on the show floor where prizes will be competed for daily. So, as you can see it will be a busy week. This year's educational program will be leading edge and attendee brochures will be in the mail shortly so check it all out. Then make plans for March 4-7. The Rhode Island Convention Center in Providence is the place.

GARY SYKES

Results of the Gary Luccini Memorial 4-Ball Tournament

The first Annual Gary Luccini Memorial Four-Ball Championship final results:

Champions - Ken Crimmings & Bob Cullen
Runners-up - Gary (& Brian) Luccini & Ken Mooradian

3rd Place - Larry Anshewicz & Jim Fitzroy
4th Place - Joe Lazaro & Joe Rybka

The committee would like to thank the members of the association who supported and played in this, the inaugural year. In particular, a special thanks to the superintendents who hosted matches at their clubs. Without their support, such association activities could not happen.

The competition, which stretched out over eight months, ended with the battle for third place (stopped after 20 holes due to darkness) being decided by a two-hole putt-off at our December meeting. The entire competition had many tight matches. Five matches were decided 2 and 1, six matches 1-up, a 20-hole match and a 24-hole match.

As you all know, prior to the final match, the championship lost one of its most

vocal supporters, Gary Luccini. I had the honor to compete against Gary just a few days prior to his surgery. He commented on how he loved the format and couldn't

GCSANE NEWS

wait to defend the title he and Ken would win. The Board of Directors, knowing of Gary's feeling, so honored both him and this association by naming the championship in Gary's memory.

Enclosed in this issue of *The Newsletter* please find the entry form for 2002. The committee has decided to pick pairings by a blind draw for next year. So mark the date, March 21, during the monthly meeting at International Golf Club. The deadline to return entries is March 15.

Please call me or the other committee members, Mike Hermanson and Dave Comee, if you have any questions.

BOB HEALEY

The competition, which stretched out over eight months, ended with the battle for third place (stopped after 20 holes due to darkness) being decided by a two-hole putt-off at our December meeting.

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

MEMBERSHIP

Welcome New Member: Joshua White, Assistant, Brookline G.C.

INFORMATION

New England Grows will be held February 7-9, 2002 at the Hynes Convention Center in Boston. For more information call (508) 653-3009. To register on-line, go to www.NEGrows.org.

Belated congratulations to Gary Sykes and family. His wife delivered a baby girl, Heather Marie, back in August.

Thank you to Chris Tufts and the staff of Pleasant Valley C.C. for hosting the December meeting of GCSANE.

Please be sure to attend the GCSANE Annual Meeting at Ridder Farm on January 14. Awards will be presented, nominated officers will be elected and an open discussion forum will take place. It is very important that as many members as possible attend this meeting.

Congratulations to Chris Peterson of Tom Irwin, Inc. He was recently named Vice President of the Independent Turf & Ornamental Distributors Association (ITODA). ITODA members should also be aware that the 4th Annual RISE/ITODA Breakfast will be held Feb. 7, 6:45 a.m. at the Rosen Centre in Orlando, Florida.

Michael Luccini was recently named superintendent at Franklin Country Club. Best wishes to Mike.

We would like to congratulate Dave Barber and the Wellesley Country Club for hosting a wonderful Holiday Gala for GCSANE.

Congratulations to Pat Daly from Framingham Country Club. Pat recently achieved CGCS status.

Congratulations are also extended to Jim Reinertson on the recent birth of his daughter, Cassandra Lee.

Paul Wilson will be hosting his annual nine-hole budget meeting Tuesday, January 29 at Whitinsville Country Club at 9 a.m. For more information, Paul may be reached at (508) 234-2533.

Hats off to Dan Higgins, CGCS and Winchester Country Club. The course recently received the distinction of being certified by Audubon International. Winchester is the fifth golf course in Massachusetts to receive certification.

Congratulations to Brian and Alexandra Linehan on the recent birth of their new daughter, Helen Rose. She was born December 6 and weighed in at 7 lb. 8 oz.

GCSAA NEWS

Check out the newly redesigned "Compliance Corner" section of GCSAA Online at: www.gcsaa.org/members/govrel/guide.html. The information in this section has been reorganized, and includes a comprehensive list of state and federal OSHA, EPA, DOL and general safety resources, including publications, articles and reference guides to help superintendents stay in compliance with many of the laws and regulations that affect the golf course management profession. New compliance topics include: Worker Protection Standard (WPS), H2B visas, wage and hour laws, child labor laws, and defibrillators. The section also features the Environmental Desk Reference (EDR). The EDR is designed to provide a golf course owner, superintendent or other person involved in the development, construction, or operation of a golf course with a general understanding of the types of environmental laws and regulations that may impact golf course operations.

Registration for the chapter team competition at the GCSAA Golf Championship is now open. Registration forms were mailed to chapters. You may also access a form by going to: www.golf-courseshow.com/2002confer/tourn/chapterreg.pdf.

Quarterly State of the Association reports provide GCSAA members with a "big picture" view of GCSAA activities and operations. To access a synopsis of Steve Mona's quarterly report to the GCSAA Board of Directors from the 2001 Fall Board Meeting, go to: www.gcsaa.org/members/community/stateofassn.html

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

The Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (Bureau) is conducting an audit of the operational status of Private Land Mobile Radio (PLMR) stations licensed on frequencies below 512 MHz. The purpose is to update and increase the accuracy of the Commission's PLMR licensing database. Golf courses that use radios to communicate and operate irrigation systems will be included in the FCC's audit. As part of the audit, the FCC is sending audit letters to licensees with authorized facilities operating on frequencies below 512 MHz. The FCC began mailing letters Aug. 15, 2001 and will complete all mailings approximately six months later in Feb. 2002. The audit letter includes a form designed to gather required information to complete an audit response. Licensees are required to respond within 60 days. The FCC has created a website that provides information associated with the audit, <http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/plmrs/audit.html>.

FOR SALE

The International Golf Club Equipment Sale. 9 - 1991 Jacobsen 22" walk behind mowers - \$750 ea.; 1988 Turf Sweeper - \$1,000; 1992 Vicor Topdresser - \$1,500; 1979 Jacobsen Turf Vacuum - \$1,500; 1991 Toro 580-D - \$12,000; 1991 Jacobsen GK4 - \$4,000; 1992 Jacobsen GK4 - \$4,000; Lely Spreader - \$1,000. Contact Jim or Brett - (978) 779-1394.

EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Superintendent. Sterling C.C. is a privately owned 18-hole country club located 18 minutes north of Worcester. A certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary, the course has four acres of Bentgrass greens, four acres of bent/rye tees, and 18 acres of Bentgrass fairways. The course has an automatic Toro OSMAC irrigation system, and hosts 30,000 rounds annually. Responsibilities include working with superintendent and one other assistant to manage, train, and supervise a crew of 20+ individuals; plus general golf course maintenance, chemical/fertilizer applications, overseeing projects, irrigation & drainage repairs, scheduling, record-keeping, and day-to-day operations. Qualifications include a two-year degree in turf management, a valid Mass. pesticide applicator's license, and should have 3-5 years of experience as an assistant. Applicant needs to be a team player with good communications skills who is committed, motivated, and ready to have fun. Salary is competitive, with full medical benefits, 401(k), golf privileges, two weeks of vacation, and paid association dues. The position is open until filled. Please send resume to: Greg Tower, Sterling C.C., 33 Albright Road, Sterling, MA 01564; fax: 978-422-8055; E-mail: sterlingcc@aol.com.

Superintendent. Meadow Brook G.C. is a private, 9-hole golf club in Reading, Mass., 15 miles north of Boston. Individuals will report directly to green chairman. The course has a fully automated irrigation system and measures 6,600 yards. The applicant should possess a two or four-year degree in turf management or related field; at least five years of golf course experience, three of which spent as an assistant or superintendent; experience with budgets, hiring, and employment issues. Applicant must have proven management and leadership skills. Experience with all aspects of irrigation and spraying; scheduling, record-keeping, and leading staff in day-to-day operations. Individual should be available to work extended hours when necessary. Salary is commensurate with experience. Please send resume by January 11 to: Meadow Brook G.C., Attn: Jim Guarente, 292 Grove St., Reading, MA 01867; phone (781) 942-1334.

Please Patronize these FRIENDS of the ASSOCIATION

A-OK Turf Equipment Inc.

1357 Main St., Coventry, RI 02816-8435
Articulator, Terra Topper, Greens Groomer
brush, & used equipment.
Mike Comicelli - (401) 826-2584

A.A. Will Materials Corp.

168 Washington St., Stoughton, MA 02072-1748
Top dressing & bunker sand, decorative stone,
landscape materials.
Charlie Downing, Mike Read
(800) 4-AA-WILL

Allen's Seed Store Inc.

693 S. County Trail, Exeter, RI 02822
Specializing in quality seed and related
golf course maintenance supplies.
Gregg Allen - (800) 527-3898

The Andersons Technologies, Inc.

26 Waite Ave., S. Hadley, MA 01075
Manufacturer of fertilizer & control products
Rick Forni - (413) 534-8896

Armstrong Golf Architects, LLC

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ProGrass, ProStar, Proxy, Sevin, Turcam
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Bay State Fertilizer/MWRA

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Kristen Patneaud - (617) 788-4437

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The Borden Company

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Ruszala's last report

continued from page 4

Russ Heller - Tremendous amount of time and dedication in keeping *The Newsletter* current and informative.

Kevin Osgood - Thanks for your timely E-mails and continued support.

Sharon Brownell - Our executive secretary, who knows the ins-and-outs of our business, and who can decipher my faxes I send to her.

A sincere thank you to you all!

A few other items of business:

We have hired Julie Heston as business manager to help our *Newsletter* chairman. As most of you know, *The Newsletter* takes a tremendous amount of time to set up and mail to everyone. GCSANE mails 650 newsletters monthly. At this time the GCSANE board of directors felt it necessary to hire someone. Julie already works for the Rhode Island Superintendent's Association and will be very familiar to our business. We welcome Julie to GCSANE.

The Ouimet Scholarship Fund has changed its requirements. As of October students applying to be a Ouimet scholar will only need to work on a golf course in the pro shop, superintendent department, or be a caddie for two years of service to be eligible to apply for a scholarship.

On December 19 in Norton, Mass., the MGA broke ground for their new building. The new tenants will be the MGA, WGAM, the Ouimet Scholarship Fund, the Golf Course Owners Association, and a few other groups, as well as GCSANE. We are happy to see the ground breaking happen. Hopefully we will be in our "new home" in early 2003.

Our Holiday Gala on December 16 went very well. We had an attendance of 103 spirited guests and members of GCSANE. Everyone brought a "Toy for Tots" and we presented these to Major Paul Roche of the U. S. Marine Corps. He thanked us for the toys and told us of how these presents really make many children who are unfortunate smile. Thanks to Dave Barber, superintendent of Wellesley C.C., for

being our host. Thanks to Art Silva, our chairman of this event, for a great planned party. Marty Ryan, manager of Wellesley, and his entire staff did a fantastic job, from the beautiful ice sculptures and great food to the hospitality shown to each and every one of us. The band was great also. Next year we will be at Woodland C.C. on Saturday, December 2 for the 2002 Gala.

At our annual meeting we will vote on a bylaw change. Kevin Osgood, our Past President, will present the proposed changes. Please read the summary in *The Newsletter* before our annual meeting.

Again, thank you for letting me serve you as president. It was a great honor for me to represent each of you. There are many more names I could put in to thank everybody, but Russ Heller limited me to this small amount of space. I look forward to seeing everyone at our annual meeting. Come show support for the new directors. Now I will be able to do some fishing!

Sincerely, Bob Ruszala
President, GCSANE

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