THE NEWSLETTER

September 2004

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.

Two superintendents reflect on a rarity: A decades-long tenure at one golf course

(This is the first of a two-part series on job longevity of the golf course superintendent, based on conversations with those superintendents who have experienced long-term relationships with clubs and courses. Part two will be featured next month.)

MONTHLY FEATURE

There appears to be a new breed of vanishing American fading from golf's landscape: the golf course superintendent who forms a long, often lasting relationship with his employer. His days may be numbered . . . or are they?

"I can see the day when 10 years at one club will be exceptional for the superintendent," opines Mike Hermanson. That's rich coming from Hermanson, who just happens to be entrenched in his 33rd year as head superintendent at the Gardner Municipal Golf Course.

Hermanson, president of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of New England, admits that he's one of his self-coined "exceptions." An explanation is in order. "Civil service," he tells. "My job is protected under that system. But civil service is also an endangered species here. I think there is only one other department head who falls under civil service protection in Gardner. There'll be a change when both of us retire."

Obviously, Hermanson underestimates his presence at the Gardner layout. Not only has he become a fixture at the public course, he's been responsible for its reputation as one of the best conditioned layouts in the area. "It's only natural," Mike sighs. "I treat the course like it's my very own. Nothing's too good for my baby."

All affection aside, Hermanson believes change haunts his profession, leading to the premise that golf courses may not promote long relationships with their superintendents. "Let's face it," he remarks. "We (superintendents) are in a difficult profession nowadays. We've become a business, same as the game of golf. Down the road there'll be no bonding between employer and employee. In business, money is the bottom line. The superintendent will be part of the overall budget. It'll be a profit and loss world. There'll be a lot of job hopping."

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>
> Mike Hermanson
> Gardner Municipal G.C.

The Kittansett Club in Marion has known only one golf course superintendent in the past 43 years. He's Len Blodgett, who came aboard in 1962 when the course needed someone to lift it from the ranks of the ordinary to one of the extraordinary clubs on Cape Cod.

Strong, energetic, and forthright, Blodgett brings those characteristics to the job every day of his working life. He says some of his club members thought he was "too cocky" when he took charge, but that they misunderstood confidence for arrogance and conceit. Whatever, they soon realized that he was the kind of superintendent who put his money where his mouth was.

Blodgett was working at the Country Club of Greenfield, his birthplace, when he got a call from a familiar turf management icon, Dr. Joseph Troll. Dr. Troll had taken Len under his wing at the University of Massachusetts turf school and thought he'd be the perfect choice to push Kittansett to prominence and into the high-end category of Cape golf courses.

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THE NEWSLETTER

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"I suppose I was hand-picked for this job," Blodgett laughs. "Dr. Troll probably figured there was a challenge out there and I might be the right guy to take it on. I remember him asking me if I work cheap. Well, the salary then was $5,800. That's not exactly top dollar for taking on a job where I had to virtually start from scratch."

"We're talking about a course that was tied together with baling wire, with traps growing wild, some into the greens. That's what I mean by starting from scratch. It was a complete makeover. What I did first was surround myself with good people to work with. From there we just pulled together until the course began to take shape."

Blodgett calls himself only the "second real superintendent" Kittansett has had in its 82-year existence. "Mike Pierce was the original superintendent back in 1922 when the course was built," Len discloses. "He stayed on through World War II and then the club decided to try a pro-superintendent operation. I don't think that worked out too well. At least it didn't look that way when I arrived in 1962."

Like Hermanson at Gardner, Blodgett didn't think he would have a long stay at Kittansett. "I don't think anyone gets the idea that he'll remain on the same job a long time," Len says. "But somehow everything seemed to fall into place here. My family liked living on the Cape, and once the golf course came up to my standards, I got the same feeling that this would be a perfect place to call home."

"Pretty soon, I told myself I wanted to stay put. Everything made us feel very comfortable here. I really put a lot of myself into the job. It became a goal to do all I could to give my family a stable life with no drastic interruptions, like having to pull up stakes and move."

With that in mind, Len set out to let the club realize he wanted to become a permanent part of the operation. In turn, he convinced club officials to get behind him in his attempt to keep Kittansett at the top of the Cape Cod golfing rolls.

"I also tried to convince them that having a stable crew would be a big asset in keeping the course in grade-A condition," he tells. "Many of the people on my crew today were with me when I started the job 43 years ago. The club had to get behind them, too, in order to make this thing work. It did and everyone's all the better because of responsible leadership at both ends of our equation."

(Next: More conversations with other superintendents who have made longevity part of the relationship with their clubs, plus their views on long-term job prospects of the superintendent in the future.)

GERRY FINN

"I don't think anyone gets the idea that he'll remain on the same job a long time. But somehow everything seemed to fall into place here. My family liked living on the Cape, and once the golf course came up to my standards, I got the same feeling that this would be a perfect place to call home."

Len Blodgett
The Kittanset Club

CALENDAR . . .

October 5 **GCSANE Monthly Meeting**
Stockbridge Fund Raiser Tournament
Hickory Ridge Country Club
Amherst, Mass.
Supt. - Robert Ruszala

Nov. 1 **GCSANE Monthly Meeting**
Scramble
Bear Hill Golf Club
Stoneham, Mass.
Supt. - Richard French

Dec. 10 **Holiday Gala**
Dedham Country & Polo Club
Dedham, Mass.
Supt. - Michael Stachowicz

GCSANE president invites membership to share ideas on improving the association

We've had a pretty easy summer, but I understand that as northeast golf course superintendents, we occasionally have to deal with problems caused by harsh winter conditions. I can't, however, even imagine how southern superintendents are handling the damage and cleanup following all the hurricanes they have experienced. Good luck guys.

I have recently appointed Patrick Daly, CGCS, as nominating chairman. Pat will soon be forming his committee. Contact Pat if you have an interest in serving and want to get involved. You can start out by volunteering to serve at the committee level. Remember, it's your association!

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I have recently appointed Patrick Daly, CGCS, as nominating chairman. Pat will soon be forming his committee. Contact Pat if you have an interest in serving and want to get involved.

Congratulations to Tom Brodeur and his staff at TPC-Norton for once again doing a tremendous job. The course was given rave reviews by the tour players. Great job, Tom!

If you have any ideas to make the association better, please contact myself or any other board member. I was contacted with a great idea just the other day. It was recommended that one way to increase attendance at the Team-of-Two Championship is perhaps to add another division. This division would have one affiliate and one superintendent paired together. Sounds pretty good to me!

Since autumn begins on September 22, it seems only fitting that we talk about what I think is one of our finest events. I'm talking about the association's Holiday Gala. Mike Stachowicz will be the host this year on Friday, December 10 at Dedham Country & Polo Club. If you haven't been in the past, you don't know what you're missing, and the best part is that the association pays one half the cost. Mark this date on your calendar.

Best wishes,
Michael J. Hermanson
GCSANE President

Stuart Eyman reports on his memorable experience playing in the People vs. The Pros Tournament

By Stuart Eyman, CGCS

My experience in Pinehurst at The People vs. The Pros Tournament was exciting and fun. It started with a cocktail reception hosted by BASF in which they announced they were sponsoring an additional tournament open only to the 14 superintendents there for People vs. Pros. The two low-net superintendents at the end of the 54-hole qualifier would compete for a grand prize of $10,000, with the loser getting $5,000. The superintendents would also receive BASF products.

GCSANE NEWS

Staying at the Carolina Inn was pure luxury, with a very attentive staff and food that was fantastic. The grounds of the inn were beautiful, with flowering trees, shrubs, and gardens. The tournament opened on Friday, August 6 on Course #5 where I shot a respectable 98. However that turned out to be my best score. On Saturday, we played Course #4 and Sunday we played Course #5 again, but I just couldn't do much scoring. I forget what I ended with, but it was high. I ended early enough on Sunday to have time to play 10 holes at the famous #2 Course. That was the high point of my entire trip and I managed to shoot a 51, which wasn't bad for that course. Those greens have some very severe slopes and are fast.

BASF arranged for the 14 superintendents to be interviewed by ESPN before the Saturday round. The interviews will be aired as part of ESPN's tournament coverage on December 6 (10 a.m. - 12 noon, EST). All in all it was a delightful experience which I'll always remember. Many thanks go to BASF, GCMACC and GCSANE for making it possible.

BASF arranged for the 14 superintendents to be interviewed by ESPN before the Saturday round. The interviews will be aired as part of ESPN's tournament coverage on December 6.

USGA agronomists offer recommendations on management of anthracnose basal rot disease

By David Oatis, Director, & Jim Skorulski & Jim Baird, Agronomists

TURF SCIENCE

While a greater understanding of both cultural and chemical management strategies for anthracnose basal rot (ABR) disease has decreased the severity of outbreaks, this fungus continues to show up, lurk, or otherwise explode on weakened, stressed Poa annua turf despite a relatively mild growing season. ABR is commonly incited by the quest for fast greens and the practices that are employed to obtain them. However, stressful weather (i.e., too hot, wet, or dry) alone is enough to spark the disease and, once active, ABR is one of the most difficult diseases to control. More and more, superintendents are finding themselves between a rock and a hard place when it comes to satisfying golfer demands for green speed and keeping turf alive. As the saying goes, "the greens always putt best before they die."

The following list is recommendations for managing ABR disease and balancing turf health and playability based upon field observations and university research:

- Chemical control of ABR is best achieved using a preventative program consisting of tank mixtures of appropriate contact and systemic fungicides. Contact your regional Green Section agronomist or university turf extension specialist for a list of fungicides that are recommended for control of ABR.
- More frequent application of fungicides is critical during stressful weather, when increased ball roll is desired, or following disease outbreak.
- Since the fungus resides in the mat or thatch layer, apply fungicides using an adequate volume of water to ensure that the active ingredient reaches its target.
- Research has clearly demonstrated the relationship between increased nitrogen fertility and reduced ABR disease severity. In other words, don't starve Poa annua for the sake of increased ball roll. At least 3 lbs. N per 1000 sq. ft. per year is recommended to promote healthier Poa annua turf on putting greens, including 1/10-1/8 lb. N per 1,000 sq. ft. every 1-2 weeks during the summer months using a soluble form of fertilizer that can be tank-mixed with fungicides.
- Increased nitrogen fertility warrants the need to adjust cultivation practices (i.e., aeration, verticutting, topdressing, etc.) accordingly to manage thatch accumulation. However, be aware that these practices also can incite the disease, especially during stressful weather.
- When possible, time your fungicide applications in conjunction with cultivation practices in order to protect wounds from infection.
- Raise the height of cut as much as possible and adapt other less stressful practices (e.g., double cutting, rolling, growth regulators, etc.) to achieve the

ABR is commonly incited by the quest for fast greens and the practices that are employed to obtain them. However, stressful weather (i.e., too hot, wet, or dry) alone is enough to spark the disease, and once active, ABR is one of the most difficult diseases to control.

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Do soil salts only affect our coastal regions? Here is a primer on different types of soil salts

by Colleen Tocci, Aquatrols

Soil salts only affect coastal regions . . . true or false. False!

Salt related problems in turf have been a factor for some time in many parts of the country. They are, however, becoming more of an occurrence in geographic areas that may have not been affected in the past. While some "salts" are essential nutrients to plants, high levels of salts can become detrimental to plant growth. When evaporation is greater than rainfall or irrigation amounts, salt levels build up in the soil. Salts also build up in soils because of the use of poor drainage, a high water table or poor quality water. Poor water quality can result from natural salts in wells, use of effluent water or salt water intrusion.

SOIL SCIENCE

Nationwide water conservation efforts have increased the need for golf courses to turn to non-potable water for irrigation – particularly wastewater (effluent, recycled or grey water). Increased use of effluent water sources has resulted in a greater potential for salt management problems – presenting a new challenge for many turf managers.

What should I look for? There are three types of salt-affected soils. They are saline, sodic and saline-sodic soils. A saline soil has a high enough level of soluble salts to affect plant growth. Typically you will see a white crusty appearance at the surface of the soil, a burned leaf or stunted growth of grass. These symptoms, however, are not always visible. In this soil type, the salts attract water, making less water available to the plant causing salt induced plant water stress (physiological drought). Shoot and plant tissue damage may occur as well as plant nutrient deficiencies.

Sodic soils are high in exchangeable sodium and appear hard and lumpy when they are dry. Water infiltration, especially in finer textured soils, is usually poor. In addition, pH levels are usually high in these soils and plant nutrition imbalances may occur. Poor soil penetration can result which inhibits water movement through the soil.

The third type of salt-affected soil is saline-sodic. As noted by the name, these soils exhibit a high level of salt and exchangeable sodium. This is a frequent condition seen in turfgrass management. Soils of this type may physically appear satisfactory but plant growth may be inhibited. The problems manifest themselves in this soil type in the same way as saline soil – especially in the reduction of water available to the plant. Saline-Sodic soils suffer all the symptoms of both conditions above and are the hardest to manage. Due to poor water penetration caused by sodium, the ability to leach and manage the high soluble salts is severely reduced. Salt levels can build up rapidly in these soils even if water quality is not extreme.

What can I do? As there are different types of salt affected soils, there are different ways to treat them. Saline soils require leaching of the excess salts. Historically, this has been achieved with additional irrigation to "flush the salts away." By applying large volumes of water and allowing it to drain through the soil, you may be able to reduce the level of salts. As stated earlier, water conservation is a key element in turfgrass management today, reducing the desirability of this option. However, if this tactic is employed, the use of an effective soil penetrant will help the applied water to penetrate and leach the salts below the rootzone. In addition, fertilization programs may be modified to correct nutritional imbalances.

In both Sodic and Saline-Sodic soils, the sodium must be addressed aggressively. Sodium easily attaches itself to the soil particles, negatively affecting soil structure. This damage to soil structure reduces water penetration, percolation and drainage. Soluble salts start to build in the rootzone and the turf becomes stressed.

The only way to displace the sodium and rebuild soil structure is to increase the calcium in the rootzone. When soluble calcium is available in the rootzone, the calcium can displace the sodium on the soil particle. The sodium, along with other salts, can then be leached away with a leaching program.

Typical calcium programs include gypsum applications if pH's are high, and lime applications if pH's are low (below 6). Recently, injectable and sprayable grades of these products have been introduced into the market to help in the application of these products. While these products are "tried and true," they are slow to solubilize calcium into the system. Consequently, the effect of the calcium on modifying the soil structure is slow. Using a product that

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As there are different types of salt-affected soils, there are different ways to treat them. Saline soils require leaching of the excess salts.

Changes to GCSAA certification program include completion of portfolio & a closed-book exam

GCSAA NEWS

As a Class A member of GCSAA, you may be qualified, or close to being qualified to pursue certification. All individuals applying to the program on or after November 1, 2004 will be subject to a new examination process.

This process includes the completion of a portfolio that involves your responses to case studies, skill statements, and submission of work samples. The portfolio must be turned in with your application. You can begin working on your portfolio at any time by requesting the Instructional Study Guide for the GCSAA Portfolio. It is available for $20 through GCSAA Member Solutions at (800) 472-7878.

This process includes the completion of a portfolio that involves your responses to case studies, skill statements, and submission of work samples.

The new process also involves a closed-book exam and the attesting process, both of which must be completed within one year of the approval of your application. Certification eligibility requirements include completion of a Self-Assessment and Developmental Action Plan (DAP) through our online tool called the PDR (Professional Development Resource). A new and improved PDR tool will launch on Oct. 4. However from Friday, Sept. 17 through Sunday, Oct. 3, the PDR will be unavailable so user data can be moved to the new tool. If you are in the process of completing your Self-Assessment and/or your DAP, please complete them prior to Sept. 16 so that your points can be posted to your record appropriately.

Certification eligibility requirements can be found online. If you have any questions, please contact Penny Mitchell at *pmitchell@gcsaa.org* or Lorrie Butell at *lbutell@gcsaa.org*.

The new process also involves a closed book exam and the attesting process, both of which must be completed within one year of the approval of your application.

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A primer on soil salts: A concern not only for our coastal regions

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improves the solubility of calcium can enhance its availability in the soil, maximizing the displacement of sodium that has built up. The calcium will help to rebuild the soil structure while the sodium and other displaced salts are leached away from the rootzone.

While high levels of salts in soils may not totally prevent you from growing turfgrass, you will need to modify your turfgrass management techniques. You must find techniques which will allow you to move water through the soil and release the "excess salts" from the rootzone.

Article compliments of Aquatrols, 5 North Olney Ave., Cherry Hill, NJ 08003.

A selection of postings from the GCSANE Forum with thoughts on bunker liners & Greens King VI

From time to time *The Newsletter* reprints selected postings fron GCSANE's web site forum in order to reach a wider audience.

Bunker liners

(Peter Hasak, 09/08/2004). Anyone who has made use of any of the newest "wave" of bunker liners, any info pro or con would be much appreciated. Thanks, Peter.

(Russell Heller, 09/09/2004). Peter, I used one of the new fabic liners (don't remember which) on some sloped faces. I found it to help keep the sand clean after washouts. In the future, I will consider using the smaller liners on non-face areas. The price adds up, but I'm interested in non-contaminated bunker sand. Dahn Tibbett was going to build some bunkers this year using the sprayable product (Klingstone?). You might want to give him a call for more info. I did some bunker liner research at the National and have a file with prices and info. Give me a call if you want to talk about it further. Russ.

GCSANE FORUM

> "I found it to help keep the sand clean after washouts. In the future, I will consider using the smaller liners on non-face areas. The price adds up, but I'm interested in non-contaminated bunker sand."
>
> Russ Heller, contributing to the GCSANE Forum discussion on bunker liners

> "But I have heard this from someone that the hoses will last longer when reels are shut off when not cutting."
>
> Ron Kirkman, contributing to the GCSANE Forum

(Ren Wilkes, 9/09/2004). Peter, North American Green makes one called Bunker Gard. Fall River C.C. did a test last year and should have info on performance. Their website is *nagreen.com*. Ren

Greens King VI

(Scott Reynolds, 08/17/2004). I have a had a lot of hydro problems (leaks) with my GK6, two times last year and three this year (on greens) and the machines are only two-years-old. Is anyone else having these problems?

(Bill Yanakakis, 08/19/2004). Scott, I have had problems with my 3400 Fairway mower. I have blown five hoses on a two-year-old machine. They seem to let go arbitrarily, not at friction or wear points. I think that Jacobson may have used a poor quality of hose. There is more information on the national site under Shop Talk. Good Luck, Bill - Rockport C.C.

(Ron Kirkman, 08/19/2004). Bill, when we go from fairway to fairway we always shut the reels off on the 3400. The only time the reels are on is when we are cutting and making a turn. Don't ask me why or how. But I have heard this from someone that the hoses will last longer when reels are shut off when not cutting. Hope it's not the operator . . . Capt. Kirk.

(Rich Caughey, 08/20/2004). Hey Scott, I have two Greens Kings, four-years-old, no blown hoses yet, knock on wood. Did you replace with jake hoses or other? I have made a habit of replacing all our hyd. hoses with the best quality hose from a local hyd. shop. Great summer otherwise; all this rain is great for the course, or so I have heard. Rich.

(Scott Reynolds, 08/21/2004). As things break we have been getting other hoses but the leaks have not been limited to flex hoses.

(Bill Yanakakis, 08/23/2004) Ron, Thanks, I'll try that. But speaking of the operator, Jack just came in wondering why one of his reels was not spinning? After I dug out his baseball cap, which was lodged between the reel and bedknife, I sent him on his way! I think you got all of the brains in your family! We hung the cap up on the wall as a reminder of what not to mow! Bill.

> "But speaking of the operator, Jack just came in wondering why one of his reels was not spinning? After I dug out his baseball cap, which was lodged between the reel and bedknife, I sent him on his way! I think you got all of the brains in your family! We hung the cap up on the wall as a reminder of what not to mow!"
>
> Bill Yanakakis, contributing to the GCSANE Forum

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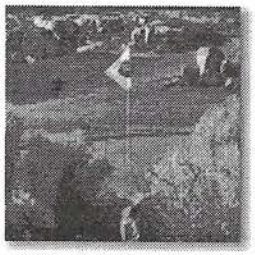

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USGA agronomists give recommendations on managing ABR: anthracnose basal rot

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desired range of ball roll. • Lighter walk-behind mowers provide a better quality of cut and less turf wear and stress relative to triplex machines.

• Switch to solid front rollers on reel mowers during the summer to help reduce turf wear and stress.

• Skip mowing the cleanup passes around greens 2-3 times each week.

• Implement a lightweight rolling program every other day to help achieve desired ball roll. To reduce wear, be careful not to turn or reverse the rolling units on the perimeter of the greens. Consider rolling the greens instead of mowing on certain days.

• Mow infected greens last to avoid spreading the disease to uninfected greens.

• Use growth regulators that impart stress tolerance on annual bluegrass and help to increase ball roll.

- An outbreak of ABR can be exacerbated by too much or too little water so closely monitor moisture levels in the putting greens and apply water accordingly. Train your staff to detect the difference between drought stress and disease symptoms.

• ABR is most severe on annual bluegrass turf that thrives in wet, shaded, or compacted areas. Therefore, now is a good time to: 1) correct drainage problems in greens; 2) remove trees that impede sunlight, air movement, and uptake of water and nutrients by turfgrass roots; and 3) remove obstructions (e.g., vegetation, bunkers, etc.) that create concentrated traffic patterns and turf wear.

• Schedule tournaments or special events (when green speed is in high demand) in early to mid-June, September, or early October when weather conditions are least stressful and ideal for turf growth and recuperation.

Source: Jim Baird, jbaird@usga.org

Federal agencies adopt new process for ESA-friendly pesticide approval

GOVT. RELATIONS

At the 76th International Golf Course Superintendents Conference in San Diego, GCSAA launched a campaign supporting federal regulations to establish a process for registering pesticide products while protecting endangered species. The regulations have been adopted. Our thanks to those who provided positive comments to the Federal Register docket as well as to chapters that promoted the campaign through web site postings and e-mails.

The regulations aim to stop lawsuits brought against the EPA by anti-pesticide groups. In recent years, such groups have sought injunctions restricting use of vital pest control measures. This spring, activists were successful in using the Endangered Species Act (ESA) to restrict use of pesticides used on golf courses in the Northwest.

The ESA requires a federal agency (such as EPA) to consult with other federal wildlife agencies when it takes any action with potential to harm endangered species. In the past, not having a process in place made it difficult for consultations to occur. The new regulations, which define this consultation process, were developed after a review of EPA's risk assessment methods. The improved procedures ensure measures are taken to protect fish and wildlife. They also will ensure that golf course superintendents have the pest control products they need.

By using sophisticated scientific methods to protect wildlife from pesticide risks, EPA can determine that use of a pest-control product is "not likely to adversely affect" a listed species. Wildlife agencies can perform periodic reviews of methods to ensure EPA determinations are consistent with ESA requirements.

When consultation is needed, EPA may use an optional procedure to determine effects of a pest-control product. This also allows EPA to request involvement of representatives of the services. As required by law, the services would make the final determination whether threatened or endangered species are likely to be jeopardized by a FIFRA action. Visit the EPA web site for information: *www.epa.gov*.

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Education Points: 0.55
Code: 231-3-04RS

GCSAA seminars are presented in partnership with JACOBSEN

For more information or to register, call (800) 472-7878.

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

MEMBERSHIP

Welcome New Members: Chris Donato, Superintendent, Bass Rocks G.C. Gloucester, Mass.; Keith Thoresen, Superintendent, Agawam Municipal G.C., Agawam, Mass.; Geary Belanger, Affiliate, E-Z-GO Textron, New Hampshire.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Annual GCSANE Holiday Gala is at Dedham Country & Polo Club on December 10. The cost is a discounted $100 per couple (GCSANE and sponsors pick up the other $100). Every year attendees report a great time, so give it a try this year.

Communications: GCSANE received a thank-you letter from the Stockbridge Alumni Classic. GCSANE sponsored a foursome to this event.

Congratulations go to the following winners at the GCSANE Individual Championship at Marlborough C.C.: Superintendent Low Gross - Chris Tufts, Superintendent Low Net - Jim Whitley, Affiliate Low Gross - Mary Armstrong, Affiliate Low Net - Mike Turner, Senior Low Gross - Dave Barber, and Senior Low Net - Jim Beane.

Congratulations go to Tom Brodeur for all the good press he has received. They are very informative articles that are a credit to Tom and our profession. See *http://www.thesunchronicle.com/articles/2004/08/29/sports/sports1.txt*.

Best wishes for a speedy recovery go to Lennie Blodgett who recently had surgery to repair some blocked arteries.

Our condolences go to Tim Berge and family on the recent passing of Tim's father, Werner Berge.

A scholarship fund has been created to help the family of David Prior. All donations can be made to: Caitlin Prior, c/o Village Bank, 307 Auburn Street, Auburndale, MA 02466.

Correction: We apologize for last month's incorrect information in the condolences to Dick French on the passing of his mother. Condolences go out to Jack Hassett and family on the passing of his mother, Rita Hassett.

GCSAA NEWS

GCSAA provides free life insurance. As a benefit of membership, eligible members are automatically enrolled into the dues term life insurance program when they join GCSAA. Do you have a beneficiary named for this policy? Learn more about this valuable member benefit.

Lend your time, talents, skills, and expertise to help move the golf course management profession forward. Visit the community section of GCSAA Online to access a volunteer application form, beginning Sept. 13.

October 8 is the final call to submit an application for the 2004 GCSAA/Golf Digest Environmental Leaders in Golf Awards.

UMASS NEWS

Please note that August 31 marked the permanent closing of Gail Schumann's Turf Disease Diagnostic Lab at Marquette University. Dr. Schumann is retiring from her turf duties and will no longer be available for diagnostic services or consultations. Along with all of you, we will dearly miss her efforts and wish her the best for the future. All samples and questions should be now be directed to Dr. Robert Wick at Umass-Amherst. For details, see: *http://www.umassturf.org/services/turf_diagnostics/diseases.html*. UMass has started a search for a turf pathologist.

WEBSITE OF THE MONTH

Website of the Month: *http://www.bluebooktor.com/search/quicksearch/*, a website for finding MSDS sheets and chemical labels. It will replace the big bluebook that most of us have that is out of date anyway.

GOLF RESULTS

2004 Gary Luccini Memorial Four-Ball Championship

Finals at Pleasant Valley, 9/14/04:
Miller - Mackintosh defeated Lazaro - Gagne, 6-and-5.

(There are no results yet for third place.)

POSITION OPENINGS

Head Mechanic, Bass Rocks Golf Club, Gloucester, Mass. Bass Rocks is a 100-year old gem located on the Atlantic Ocean in Gloucester, Mass. We are currently constructing a new, 3,200-square foot storage facility with a golf lift, dual reel and bedknife grinders, and many leased pieces. Previous experience with golf course equipment a definite plus. Must have knowledge of small engines, hydraulics, reel grinding, and setting. Hourly wage is commensurate with experience. Compensation includes vacation time, sick time, medical and disability insurance, and golf privileges. Deadline for applications: as soon as possible. Please send resume to: Chris Donato, Golf Course Superintendent, Bass Rocks Golf Club, 27 Beach Road, Gloucester, MA 01930.

Golf Course Superintendent, Alburg Golf Links, Alburg, Vt. Alburg Golf Links is a semi-private 18-hole course located on Lake Champlain in Vermont. The course is under new ownership as of December 2003. Alburg Golf Link is a links style course and may be seen at www.alburggolflinks.com. Qualifications include a two or four-year degree, ability to obtain a Vermont Pesticide License, and experience as a head superintendent or a strong first assistant with three years of experience. Must have a familiarity with New England grasses and diseases. Should be a working superintendent that places strong attention to detail. Mechanical experience is a bonus. Salary is commensurate with experience and length of working season. Benefits include health insurance (75%) and local/national dues. Deadline for applications: Open until position is filled. Please send resume to: Dave Anderson, Alburg Golf Links, 230 Route 129, Alburg, VT 05440.

EQUIPMENT WANTED

Dave Comee is looking for a very good quality used sprayer for greens, tees and baseball field. 160 - 200 gals. Contact Dave Comee at (978) 297-2339.

Looking for old Rainbird Par 24 clock. Contact Fred Murray, Wayland Country Club, 121 Old Sudbury Road, Wayland, MA 01778; (508) 358-2250.

Looking for a used York rake, 4-5' preferred. Contact Jason Adams at (781) 326-3801.

EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

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