

of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of New England, Inc.

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# Massachusetts DEP turns to aerial photography to help identify suspected wetlands violations

By Michael Stachowicz, Editor, The Newsletter

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection has a new weapon for use in determining compliance with the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act. In an attempt to step up enforcement in a period of declining

MONTHLY FEATURE

budgets and staff reductions, the department has developed a new

program that compares aerial photography from 1990 – a "base map" – with recent aerial photography to find changes in wetlands topography and vegetation. The department's new enforcement technique incorporates a sophisticated computer program to pick out areas that may have been changed by either a vegetation alteration or an elevation change.

Rich Tomczyk, environmental analyst with the Mass. DEP, says that this "will tend to level the playing field for those who follow the law and go through the process (and expense) of obtaining the correct permits, and those who don't." Tomczyk also stated "nine out of ten potential violations picked out by the computer end up with some sort of enforcement action." Enforcement actions can require restoration of altered areas, as well as hefty fines.

After the DEP, with the help of its computer program, picks a potential violation, the DEP works with local conservation commissions to see if any permits were granted that would cover such work within the wetland zones. If

there are no permits on file, a field agent is sent out to meet with the property owner, or in our case, the property manager to view the site. At my club, the aerial detection software found two areas of potential violations. Luckily for my club, we were able to document that the alleged violations were errors in the detection software, rather than actual wetlands alterations.

The resolution of the department's existing aerial photography isn't very good, not much better than what you can find online with Google Earth, but this is changing. The department has contracted to fly the state again, next year, in an effort to obtain photography with better detailing, and potentially some photography at different angles to

"This will tend to level the playing field for those who follow the law and go through the process (and expense) of obtaining the permits, and those who don't."

Rich Tomczyk, Environmental Analyst, Massachusetts DEP help with the identification of wetland alterations. The hope of the DEP is that this will help enforcement and increase the efficiency of the department that has suffered through a reduction of field agents. A secondary, but significant goal is the hope of increased revenue from fines that will be issued upon the department's determination that an illegal alteration has occurred.

From a golf course point of view, this could be a brutal assault to many management practices if the club cannot provide documentation that the alterations did not occur. Common management practices such as removing dead or unsafe trees and mowing naturalized areas are things that the DEP computer can easily pick out and erroneously determine to be an alteration.

"It seems somewhat alarming," said one golf course superintendent, "my predecessor used to mow this course wall to wall. Through the Audubon Program, we have naturalized many areas in an attempt to do the right thing. Does that mean that I am going to be cited for vegetation alteration when I mow in November to stop woody succession? Do we lose all rights to a patch of land we naturalize?"

Not necessarily so – if you are willing to work with the local conservation commission. According to Richard Tomczyk, "It will have to become standard practice for golf courses to get a 'General Order of Conditions' with the town to do regular maintenance, much

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like the town's department of public works does." Receipt of an Order of Conditions is the result of filing a "Notice of Intent" with the local conservation commission. The Notice of Intent is a permit application that describes the usual (and unusual) maintenance practices that a golf course requires over the course of a typical year.

Within this Notice of Intent filing, IPM practices and "Best Management Practices" should be spelled out. Maintaining playing corridors, not expanding, should be included to allow for tree and brush trimming. Unsafe trees can be addressed in this document, as can the annual or biannual mowing of naturalized areas. Other things to include are watering practices, fertilizing practices, pipe (irrigation and drainage) maintenance and repairs within wetlands or a buffer zone, ditch maintenance, stream bank mowing, cart path resurfacing, bunker sand addition, and any other thing one can think of that is done regularly to maintain a golf course within a sensitive area.

A valuable byproduct of this permitting process is the opportunity to educate the local conservation commission on exactly what is entailed in the management of a golf course. Most conservation commissions really don't have any idea what goes into managing a golf course and going through this process helps paint that picture. It also allows the golf course to present the many environmentally sensitive management techniques that often go unappreciated by local conservation commissions. The public review process is a great opportunity to talk about conscientious pesticide use and water conservation strategies.

Either independently, or in conjunction with the Notice of Intent filing, it may be advisable to develop your own wetland mapping for your course. Submitting an accurate field evaluation of the wetlands to the conservation commission, and having them approve the delineation, will create a definitive public record of the wetland resource areas on the site. While this may seem to be a time consuming and expensive task, it could save time and money by eliminating arguments over pre-existing conditions. It can also allow for more precise conversations with the local conservation commission and may reduce misunderstandings and forestall future enforcement actions. In any case, field delineation is generally acknowledged to be far more accurate than the aerial photography currently in use by the DEP

Another important level of record keeping for the property manager will be the documentation of any casual conversations with a town official or agent. Many times I will call the conservation agent and request an informal determination. Usually this is a simple request such as "will I have to file a Notice of Intent or Request for Determination for a drain repair?" or "what do I need to give you to be allowed to do a tree take down?" If the agent says there is no need for a formal filing, then that should be documented by the club. Unfortunately, this is needed because there is no mechanism within most towns or the state that records such a conversation.

Having been through this process myself with one town, and starting the process with another town, I can say that preparing a Notice of Intent for the routine maintenance of the course is a good strategy in developing or repairing a relationship with a local conservation commission. The public review process allows for an open conversation and friendly site visits. Unfortunately, many golf courses have limited contact with conservation commissions and most of the contact is the result of enforcement action. Filing a Notice of Intent is viewed as being proactive, rather than reactive, and tends to put the course in a more positive light.

Although this does seem excessive, we as superintendents and stewards of the club's property should look at this as an opportunity to strengthen our position within the club and the community. It is just one more reason why clubs should hire (or keep!) qualified, experienced superintendents for proper representation to the town and community.

### CALENDAR . . .

Jan. 30 GCSANE Annual Meeting

Nashawtuc Country Club Concord, Mass. Host: Paul S. Miller, CGCS

# President Hermanson reflects on a difficult season . . . and looks forward to a new year of GCSANE progress

I'm sitting here writing my 23rd and next-to-the-last President's Message. Where has the time gone?

Winter has now arrived, and I hope everyone can sit back and reflect upon



what was a very difficult season. Most of the jobs that have opened have either been filled or about to be. Good luck to these new superintendents, and may their predecessors either enjoy a well-

deserved retirement or find a quality job somewhere else.

We are fortunate to have GCSAA Director Jim Fitzroy, CGCS, as a member of our association. Jim reports on what's going on at the national level at each board meeting. If you have any questions or concerns for Jim, you can see him at one of our monthly meetings. Jim does not run for re-election until February 2007, but we are already hard

at work to help Jim continue in his quest to eventually be President of GCSAA.

Speaking of monthly meetings, remember that the dress code at all

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

winter meetings is jacket and tie. If we're going to be

thought of as professionals then let's look the part. Do you still need a tie, Captain Kirk?

Golf Chairman Jim Small, CGCS, is still looking for meeting sites for 2006 and beyond. If you club has not hosted a meeting in the last 5-7 years, it is your responsibility to make it happen. Having been golf chairman for 7 or 8 years, I think I understand how this process works. If your club regularly hosts the NEPGA, Ouimet, MGA, and WGAM, but not the GCSANE, there is something terribly wrong with this picture. Get involved and host a meeting!

Elsewhere in this Newsletter you will notice some proposed bylaw changes. A special thanks to the Bylaw Committee comprised of past GCSANE presidents Dick Zepp, CGCS; Don Hearn, CGCS; and Bob Ruszala.

I have recently appointed board member Michael Stachowicz as the liaison between GCSANE and the UMass Turf Advisory Group. Mike is also the alternate to the New England Regional Turfgrass Board of Directors.

Bob Ruszala is also working on the planning of the Nor'Easter hospitality room at the GCSAA Conference this

Golf Chairman Jim Small, CGCS, is still looking for meeting sites for 2006 and beyond. If you club has not hosted a meeting in the last 5-7 years, it is your responsibility to make it happen.

February in Atlanta. Bob will have more information on this at the Annual Meeting.

Retired member and longtime Brookmeadow superintendent Leroy Allen passed away on December 11 at the age of 82. Even during his retirement, we still saw Leroy at nearly every monthly meeting. He was a good friend of GCSANE and he will be missed.

From myself, the board of directors, Sharon, and Julie, may you and your family have a very happy holiday season and a great New Year. I look forward to seeing everyone at the Annual Meeting on January 30 hosted by Paul Miller, CGCS, at Nashawtuc Country Club.

Best Wishes, Michael J. Hermanson President, GCSANE

# Letter clarifies USGA agronomist's L-93 comments

#### To the Editor:

I apologize for the misinformation given to your association regarding my comments on L-93. I did speak with Mr. Pioppi regarding the new bentgrasses and their performance in my territory.

My statements on the versatility of L-93 was to explain to Mr. Pioppi how it was one of the few bents used in greens, tees, and fairways, similar to the TifEagle or Pennlinks in the past. I also shared that the A-series bents are superior performers in my region.

I never discussed bent performance in the Northeast. I only discuss trends or experiences in my own region as that is area I see first-hand.

Again, I apologize to your association for this error and ask that you please convey my sincerest apologies for any confusion this may have created.

> Sincerely, Bud White, CPAg Senior Agronomist, USGA Green Section

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# GCSANE bylaw changes: New 25-year recognition, retired member status, & adjusted gender wording

**G**CSANE announces the following proposed bylaw changes:

1. Article IV, Membership; Section 1: Add Paragraph 8: When a member has completed his or her 25th year as a member of The Golf Course Superintendents Association of New England, the President shall award the member with a 25 year pin.

2. Article IV, Membership; Section 8. Affiliate Members: Add Paragraph 2: When a 25-year Affiliate Member retires or is permanently disabled, he or she becomes an Affiliate-Life Member. He or she shall have all of the privileges of the Association except to vote or to hold office. He or she shall not pay annual dues. An Affiliate Member with less than 25 years of membership may become an Affiliate-Life Member at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

**3. Article IV, Membership:** Add new Section 12, Change existing Section 12 to Section 13, existing Section 13 to Section

14, existing Section 14 to Section 15, and existing Section 15 to Section 16.

**New Section 12. Retired Member:** 

**Paragraph 1.** When a Class A Superintendent Member is no longer employed as Golf Course Superintendent, he or she shall be classified as

GCSANE NEWS Retired Member if they have been a Class A member for at least five years

and their years as a GCSA of New England member combined with their age equals or exceeds 75. He or she shall have all of the privileges of the Association except the right to hold office and shall pay annual dues as set by the Board of Directors.

**Paragraph 2.** When a Member retires and no longer is seeking employment within the scope of activities of any membership of the Association, he or she may apply in writing to the Board of Directors and ask to be granted Retired Member status. He or she must be either 55 years of age or have been a

Member for at least 20 years. He or she shall have all of the privileges of the Association except the right to vote or hold office and shall pay annual dues as set by the Board of Directors.

4. Article IV, Membership, Section
2. Classes of Membership, Paragraph 1: Change to read "There will be eleven classes of membership: Class AA-Life Members, Class A - Golf Course Superintendent, Golf Course Superintendent, Class C - Assistant Golf Course Superintendent, Honorary, Affiliate, Affiliate-Life Member, Associate, Retired, Student and Inactive."

Article III, The Association's Code of Ethics, Section 2, Paragraph 6: Delete the word "carbon."

Article IV, Membership, Section
1. Members, Paragraph 1: Change
the phrase "two regular members" to
"two Class A Members."

Article IV, Membership, Section 3. Class A - Golf Course Superintendent, Paragraph 1: Change to word "He" to "He or she."

Article IV, Membership, Section 4. Golf Course Superintendent, Paragraph 1: Change to word "He" (four places) to "He or she."

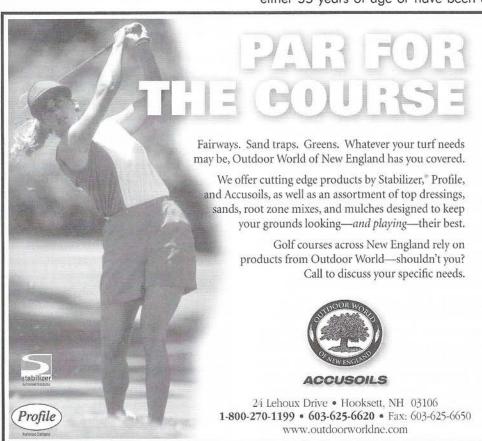
Article IV, Membership, Section 5. Class C - Asst. Golf Course Superintendent, Paragraph 1: Change to word "He" to "He or she."

Article IV, Membership, Section 6. Honorary Members, Paragraph 1: Change the word "he" to "he or she," Change the word "His" to "His or her."

Article IV, Membership, Section 7, Class AA - Life Members, Paragraph 1: Change the word "he" (three places) to "he or she." Change the word "him" to "him or her." Change the word "his" to "his or her."

Article VII, Duties of Officers, Directors, Trustees and Auditors, Section 1. Duties of the President, Paragraphs 2, 3, 4 (two places), 5, 6, 7 and 8: Change the word "he" to "he or she."

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# GCSAA's Scott Woodhead clarifies complexities of Professional Development Initiative — Part II

By R. Scott Woodhead, GCSAA Pesticide License or GCSAA IPM Exam!

Along with accumulating a total of three points (minimum 1.2 education points), one of the requirements for

GCSAA NEWS renewing Class A status is to provide proof of possessing a pesticide license or

passing GCSAA's IPM exam. What is the reasoning behind such a requirement?

- Golf course superintendents are truly stewards of the environment, but it often takes more than just "walking the walk and talking the talk" to convince others outside the golf course management industry.
- The easiest and most highly recognized way to validate your commitment to the environment is through the possession of a pesticide license. While not every golf course superintendent applies chemicals, it was agreed that all Class A members should have a basic understanding of the concepts related to safe pesticide application, handling and storage.

- Remember, to enter your pesticide license information, please access an affidavit through "My Member Central" on the GCSAA web site or request an affidavit by calling GCSAA's Fax-On-Demand at 1-888-838-4419.
- If you do not currently possess a pesticide license and would prefer to take GCSAA's IPM exam, you have the ability to schedule an exam by once again going to "My Member Central" or calling the Fax-On-Demand number listed above.

# It is July 1, 2006 and I have failed to fulfill the requirements for Class A renewal!

You have had three years to accumulate and record the three points (minimum of 1.2 education points), as well as meet the pesticide requirement, but have been unable and/or unwilling to do so. What is going to happen to your GCSAA membership?

Complying with the ongoing requirements adopted with the implementation of the Professional Development Initiative is purely voluntary. Your membership in GCSAA is not at risk,

however, your ability to maintain your Class A status in GCSAA is.

If you fail to earn a total of three points (1.2 must be education points) and/or fail to meet the pesticide requirement, you will be reclassed to Superintendent Member status on July 1, 2006. In order to regain your Class A status, you will be required to meet the original requirements, plus you will be required to accumulate an additional five points (2.0 must be education points). That means that instead of needing three points to maintain your Class A, you now need a total of eight points (3.2 must be education points) in order to regain your Class A status. Remember, as a Superintendent Member of GCSAA, you still have all the rights and privileges of the association, with the exception of holding office.

If you have questions concerning your Class A status, contact R. Scott Woodhead, Senior Manager of Governance & Member Standards at 1-800-472-7878, ext. 4418, or Stacie Adams, Membership/ PDI Coordinator, at ext. 3687.

# GCSAA program recognized as "one of the most extensive and comprehensive certification programs for any profession"

The National Certification Commission has recognized the GCSAA's certification program as "one of the most extensive and comprehensive certification programs for any profession."

The NCC, based in Maryland, is an independent source of information on

GCSAA NEWS the development and improvement of certification programs, and serves

more than 150 associations and 300 certification categories. NCC executive director Richard Jafferson commented about GCSAA's certification program after reviewing recent changes.

In 2003, GCSAA restructured its certification program to raise the level of professionalism through a comprehensive continuing education program.

GCSAA then submitted the new program to the NCC for evaluation.

GCSAA instituted its certification program in 1971 to recognize outstanding and progressive superintendents. Approximately 2,000 golf course superintendents worldwide currently hold certified status.

"The superintendent's expertise has broadened and our standards have reached a new pinnacle."

Mark Kuhns, CGCS, Director, GCSAA

To qualify for GCSAA's new competency-based certification program, a candidate must have at least three years of experience as a superintendent, be employed in that capacity, and meet specific post-secondary educational requirements and/or continuing education points. The candidate" knowledge, skills, and abilities are validated through the development of a portfolio consisting of their responses to skill statements, case-study scenarios, and submission of work samples; an on-site inspection of their golf facility; and a six-hour examination covering equipment, irrigation systems, materials & technology; golf course & grounds; human resources, rules of golf, financial & administrative systems, regulatory &

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# Walpole C.C. avoids the year's disease hazards — except a late-season bout with Gray Leaf Spot

**Editor's Note:** We all have to sit down every month to write articles for our club newsletters. We are looking to provide examples of club newsletter articles for our members. Our fourth article in this series is by Mark Gagne, superintendent at Walpole Country Club.

### By Mark Gagne, Superintendent, Walpole Country Club

It seems that every season presents its own unique set of challenges in managing golf course turf and this year has

MEMBER ARTICLE been no exception. For the past two years, excessive rainfall resulted in increased

pressure from diseases such as dollar spot, but at the same time, kept our unirrigated roughs thick and green during the summer months.

Throughout the summer this year, we managed to avoid many of the stress, disease, and insect-related problems that plagued clubs in the northeast. This summer was certainly dry, and on a year-to-date basis, we are currently four inches below normal and eight inches below last year's rainfall. The dry conditions have required a constant effort from the grounds crew to handwater greens, tees, and even fairways, as well as to manually run sprinklers in the rough where we have the capability to do so. Our cultural programs and preventive fungicide programs have kept us free from disease activity

The difference with this year's outbreak is that it has started earlier in the season than ever before, and has struck with an intensity unlike we have seen before.

throughout the summer, and we have enjoyed excellent turf conditions. For this reason, it is very disappointing at this late stage in the golf season to see our roughs and step cuts impacted by a very destructive disease known as gray leaf spot (GLS). We have experienced outbreaks of GLS to varying degrees in the past, and you may recall my writing of it in past Newsletter articles. The difference with this year's outbreak is that it has started earlier in the season than ever before, and has struck with an intensity unlike we have seen before.

GLS is unique in that it will only attack ryegrass and leave all other grass types unaffected. Unfortunately, our roughs and step cuts consist of a high percentage of ryegrass. Under favorable conditions, GLS develops rapidly, melting out entire sections of ryegrass within a few days. The disease is most prevalent in high traffic areas, and not coincidentally, the areas worst hit this year are those with concentrated cart traffic. We have made three separate curative fungicide applications, with less than desirable results. GLS is dependent on nighttime temperatures in excess of 60 degrees to remain active, and our recent weather patterns have been favorable for development. What we are hoping for at this point is the eventual arrival of some fall-like weather, which will arrest any further

As the daylight hours start to dwindle and the golf season draws to a close, the grounds staff has begun the process of preparing the course for the winter. Our strategy for winter preparation was very successful last year, and although the turf was not put to the ultimate winter injury test, we plan to follow the same program this year. Starting in September, and until the turf enters dormancy, multiple fertilizer applications have and will be made to increase carbohydrate production and root growth. Starting in mid-October, mowing heights on greens, tees, and fairways will be raised to increase leaf volume, and mowing frequency will be reduced. We plan to mow greens for the last time this season around October

18. If growth conditions warrant, greens will be moved after this time, but at an increased height-of-cut. During the first week of November, greens and tees will be aerified. The holes created by the aerification will remain partially open over the winter and will aide in the drainage of surface water. The greens will be topdressed heavily following aerification, in an effort to smoothen the surface and to help protect the crowns of the plants from cold temperatures. Preventive fungicide applications for snow mold will be made to greens and tees in mid to late November. Following the snow mold application, selected greens will be covered for the winter. We will use impermeable covers on those greens with poor surface drainage and a history of crown hydration: #1, #11, #13, and #16. Impervious covers will also be used on the tees on #17 as the shaded climate in that area of the course also lends itself to crown hydration. Conventional covers provide protection of desiccation injury and enhance spring growth in shaded greas and will be used on greens susceptible to those conditions: #3, 5, 9, 10 and

continued on page 7

Under favorable conditions, GLS (Gray Leaf Spot) develops rapidly, melting out entire sections of ryegrass within a few days. The disease is most prevalent in high traffic areas, and not coincidentally, the areas worst hit this year are those with concentrated cart traffic.

# Scenes from the Troll Turf Research Center dedication

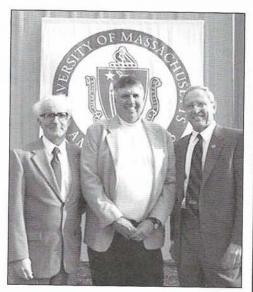


Above, Joe & Lonnie Troll enter the research wing of the new building at the Joseph Troll Turf Research Center for the first time.

# Ribbon-cutting ceremony held Nov. 1, 2006 in S. Deerfield, Mass.

Below, I. to r., are GCSANE President Michael Hermanson, Associate Dean Steve Goodwin of the College of Natural Resources and the Environment and UMass-Amherst Chancellor John Lombardi.





Above, standing in front of the UMass banner, are (I. to r.) University of Massachusetts-Amherst Chancellor **John Lombardi**, GCSANE President **Michael Hermanson**, and Dean **Cleve Willis** of the University of Massachusetts College of Natural Resources and the Environment.

# Walpole C.C. weathers a late-season bout with Gray Leaf Spot

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14. Timing of installing the covers is critical. The covers must be installed before snowfall and before the ground freezes solid. The impervious covers require an installation system to secure them from wind damage and this process takes significant time to complete. As a result, we will monitor weather conditions in November and install the covers in advance of the first snow. Typically, this means the covers would be installed around Thanksgiving, after which we will play temporary greens on the holes where the regular greens are covered. Timing of the removal of impervious covers in the spring is also critical. The impervious covers will remain in place until we believe the conditions for crown hydration no longer exist. Throughout the winter, we will monitor any ice layers that may develop on greens and tees. If the ice layers exist for more than 60 consecutive days, the ice will be physically removed to prevent suffocation of the turf. After all of these preparations, we can only hope for a winter like we had last year; minus about six feet of snow!

Reconstruction of the tee complexes on #3 and #6 is nearly complete, and the tee tops were recently seeded. The new back tee on #3 was completed and seeded in early September and it is starting to fill in nicely. We will continue to play the temporary tees for the remainder of the season and we plan to open the new tees for regular play some time in late May. In the meantime, we ask for your cooperation in staying out of the construction areas as the new sod and seedlings establish.

## GCSAA certification program earns accolades

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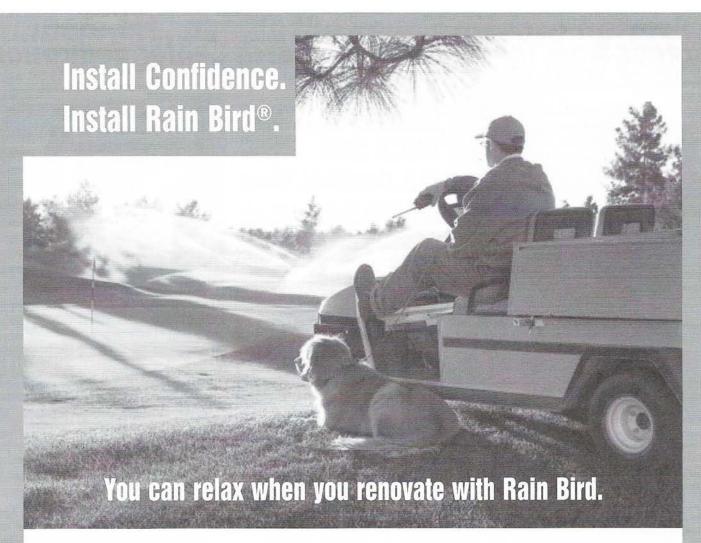
programmatic systems, crisis management, project management, and ethics & values.

Maintaining certified status requires renewal every five years after initial certification. To meet renewal requirements, a candidate must participate in 150 hours of continuing education and professional development.

"I have seen the certification process evolve over the past 20 years to what it is today," says GCSAA director Mark Kuhns, CGCS, who was the chairman of the certification committee when restructuring was completed. "The superintendent's expertise has broadened and our standards have reached a new pinnacle. The next generation of certified golf course superintendents will possess the knowledge and experience to perform at the highest level in our profession.

"I feel very confident that future certified golf course superintendents will reap the rewards and benefits for their dedication to professionalism as its value becomes more strongly realized in the marketplace."

For more information, visit GCSAA at www.gcsaa.org.



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## Proposed GCSANE bylaw changes aim to be consistent with GCSAA

continued from page 4

Article VII. Duties of Officers. Directors, Trustees and Auditors, Section 2. Duties of the Vice-President, Paragraph 1: Change the word "his" to "his or her." Paragraph 2: Change the word "He" to "He or she."

Article VII, Duties of Officers, Directors, Trustees and Auditors, Section 3. Duties of the Secretary, Paragraphs 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6: Change the word "He" to "He or she."

Article VII, Duties of Officers, Directors, Trustees and Auditors. Section 4. Duties of the Treasurer, Paragraph 2: Change the word "his" to "his or her." Paragraphs 6 and 7: Change the word "He" to "He or she."

Article VIII, Committee, Section 3. Duties and Responsibilities:

Paragraph 6, subparagraph a: Change the words "member and his wife" to "member and his/her spouse."

Paragraph 6, subparagraph b: Change the words "member or wife" to "member or his/her spouse."

Paragraph 6, subparagraph c: Change the word "his" to "his or her."

Paragraph 6, subparagraph d: Change the words "member, his wife or children" to "member, his/her spouse or children." Change to word "he" to "he

"... one who is entrusted with the management and operation of the tract of land defined as a golf course, including involvement in the construction and maintenance of golf courses and related equipment."

GCSANE proposed bylaw, Article I, Paragraph 2, defining a superintendent

Bylaw changes to make GCSA of NE bylaws consistent with the **GCSAA** affiliation gareement:

Article I: Label existing paragraph as Paragraph 1. Add new Paragraph 2: The Golf Course Superintendents Association of New England defines a Golf Course Superintendent as one who is entrusted with the management and operation of the tract of land defined as a golf course, including involvement in the construction and maintenance of golf courses and related equipment.

**Article XIII, Bylaw Amendments:** Label existing paragraph as Paragraph 1. Add new Paragraph 2: Before proposed bylaw amendments are presented to the membership for a vote, they must be submitted to the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America to be reviewed for conformity with the policies of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America. The Chapter shall furnish the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America with a copy of the amended Bylaws within 30 days of their approval by the membership.



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

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Congratulations** to Jim Small on his recent engagement to be married.

**Our condolences** go out to The Allen Family on the recent passing of Leroy Allen. Leroy was a retired member of GCSANE and former superintendent of Brookmeadow

**Congratulations** to Ron Dobosz on his new position as superintendent at Ludlow C.C.

### **GCSANE NEWS**

Request for Club Newsletter Articles. We all have to sit down every month to write articles for our club's newsletter, and it gets harder and harder to get inventive. If anyone is interested in e-mailing copies of their best articles to get printed in GCSANE's Newsletter, please send them to Michael Stachowicz, Editor, at mstach@dedhamclub.org, or to Julie Heston, Business Manager, at jheston@verizon.net. This would be helpful to other superintendents as they search for

Mark your calendars for the 2006 Joseph Troll Fundraiser to be held on October 23, 2006 at Westchester Country Club.

ideas for their own club newsletters.

### **INFORMATION**

**Aquatrols Student Essay Contest.** Topic: The role of surfactants in enhancing water use and/or irrigation efficiency. Eligibility: Children of individuals employed in a turf or landscape management capacity. Entrant must provide parent's name, title, and place of employment (subject to verification). Entrants must be accepted into an undergraduate program at an accredited institution for the 2006/2007 academic year. (Please provide school name & address). Entries must be received by midnight Wed., March 1, 2006. Entries may be submitted by mail or e-mail. Send mail entries to: Aquatrols Essay Contest, 1273 Imperial Way, Paulsboro, NJ 08066. E-mail entries to: essay.contest@aguatrols.com. Judges will select two scholarship winners for one \$2000 grand prize, and one \$1000 runner-up prize. Winners will be notified by April 15, 2006., and winning entries will be published on the Aquatrols website. Formore information, visit www.aquatrols.com.

**2006 UMass Extension Green Directory now available.** The 2006 UMass Extension Green Directory is a comprehensive guide to educational resources for

Massachusetts Agriculture industry professionals. This 32-page guide is used as a reference document all year long. The directory includes the following: Contact information for UMass Extension Agriculture specialists & faculty; Upcoming UMass Extension conferences, seminars, & workshops; UMass Plant Diagnostic Lab submission information for insect, disease, & cultural problems; UMass Soil and Tissue Testing Lab submission information; Pesticide License information, including test dates, training workshops, and how to get a pesticide license; phone resources to refer home gardener questions; Extension newsletters, web sites, & publications; and frequently used phone numbers related to agriculture. To receive a hard copy, send us your mailing address via e-mail (greeninfo@umext.umass.edu), fax (413-577-1620) or phone (413-545-0895). Also available online at www.umass.edu/agland.

### **EDUCATION**

**Lebanon Turf** is pleased to announce its winter schedule for its web seminar on the role of potash in turfgrass physiology. Worth 0.15 EPs for GCSAA members, these webinars will also trigger a \$25 donation to each attendee's local superintendent association. To sign up, go to www.lebanonturf.com and click Webinar Registration.

New England Regional Turfgrass Conference & Show 2006. Register for pre-conference GCSAA Seminars at www.NERTF.org or call 401-841-5490. Monday, March 6: 8 a.m. 3 p.m. - Taking Control of Green Speed\*; 8 a.m. 12 p.m. -Weed Management\*; 1 p.m. 5 p,m. -Hazardous Duty: Basic Bunker Maintenance; 8 a.m. 12 p.m. & 1-5 p.m. - PowerPoint (16) A&B; 1 p.m. 5 p.m. - Calibrate Your Business Management Skills. Trade Show Hours: Tues., March 7 - 4:30-7:30 p.m. with reception; Wed., March 8 10 a.m. 5 p.m. with auction; Thurs., March 9 9 a.m. 1 p.m. Educational Session Hours: Tues., March 7, 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., USGA Session, Keynote, Trade Show, & Reception (Keynote Speaker: Dennis Eckersley, former major league baseball pitcher with the Boston Red Sox, Oakland Athletics, and others, Baseball Hall of Fame Class of 2004); Wed., March 8, 9-11 a.m.\* & 2-4 p.m.\*; Thurs., March 9: 9-11 a.m.\*. Sports Turf Seminar: Tues., March 7: 1-3:30 p.m., Drainage Problem Diagnostics for Sports Fields. Certification Credits:

\*Pesticide Applicators State Recertification Credits will be offered.

The Aquatic & Terrestrial Weed Control Symposium, sponsored by the Northeastern Weed Science Society and the Northeast Aquatic Plant Management Society, will be held Wed., Jan. 4, 2006, 1 - 5:45 p.m. at the Westin Providence, 1 W. Exchange St., Providence, R.I. Experts from across the U.S. will present and discuss land & water based weed control issues. GCSAA has approved 0.4 GCSAA Education Points for those attending this session. The agenda includes the following sessions: Orifice P. Nozzlehead's View from the Boat - C. Layne, AERF; Integrated Aquatic Weed Management in Turfgrass Areas - J. Whetstone, Clemson Univ., Clemson, S.C.; Biological Control of Aquatic Weeds: 1959-2005 - J. Shearer, U.S. ACOE, R&D Center, Vicksburg, Miss.; The Successful Control of Japanese Knotweed in a Riparian Setting - A. Gover, Penn State Univ., State College, Pa.; The 2002 Farm Bill and its Effect on Invasive Plant Management in New England - A. Lipsky, USDA/NRCS; Aquatic Weed Resistance: Should I be Worried? - L.Glasgow, Syngenta Crop Protection, Vero Beach, Fla.; The IR-4 Project: New Opportunity for Aquatic Herbicide Registration in the U.S. - Marija Arsenovic, IR-4 Project, Rutgers Univ., New Brunswick, N.J.; Weed & Algae ID Workshop. Register before Dec. 16 and receive a \$30 per person discount. On-site registration is \$45 per person. To register, send name, employer, address, phone, fax, and e-mail to Brian S. Manley, Secretary/Treasurer NEWSS, Syngenta Crop Protection, 67 Pinewood Rd., Hudson, NY 12534; (518) 851-2122; email: brian.manley@syngenta.com. Make checks payable to: NEWSS (no credit card payments accepted).

### POSITION OPENING

Turf Specialists, Lawn Care Technician. There are 22 reasons to make a career at Hartney Greymont: Job stability, growth potential, competitive salary, excellent benefits, year-round employment, growing company, quality reputation, tuition reimbursement, learning experiences, nationally recognized company, team spirit, employee stock ownership, up-to-date equipment, safety focused, rewarding client relationships, award-winning service, ideal facility, participation in decision making, skill enhancement incentives, knowledgeable peers & mentors, value driven organization, drug free workplace. Please mail or fax your resume to: Hartney Greymont, Inc., 433 Chestnut Street, Needham, MA 02492, Attn: Ted Wales; Fax: (781) 455-6698. To schedule an interview, call (781) 444-1227.

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**BASF Turf & Ornamental** 

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For more information about The Newsletter's advertising program, please contact Julie Heston, GCSANE Business Manager, by phone at 401-934-3677 or by e-mail at jheston@verizon.net.

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