



# THE NEWSLETTER

December 2011

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.

## Sharon Brownell The woman behind the email address

By Jeff Urquhart, Newsletter Editor

I had the opportunity to take a few moments out of Sharon's day to discuss her career with GCSANE and her plans after GCSANE. We met on December 20<sup>th</sup>, four days after her documented last day with the association. Most of us would stay on our job after we gave our official notice, right? I know I wouldn't, call me a bad person but my last day will be my last day. She has been helping her replacement, Don Hearn, with all of the duties that she has acquired since she started in 1999. Sharon has only had 4 jobs in her entire life, not bad for a woman who's in her @&'s to have achieved such longevity. Kevin Osgood and Bob DiRico swept her up after she was let go from the Massachusetts Golf Association. While working for the MGA, she was also helping GCSANE with their accounting and secretarial tasks so it was a great fit for GCSANE. Having always been in the "secretarial" part of any business, I wondered how we differed from any other business or corporation. She replied "I have always enjoyed working with Superintendents, they are real people and a pleasure to work for." She then added "Some (Superintendents) more than others" after seeing my grin because even I know that we can all be difficult to work for. Initially Sharon had a hard time understanding or even knowing what we actually did as Golf Course Superintendents. (Enter irony paragraph here) It all became clear after a drive around with Mike Iacono. He showed her everything, from bentgrass, to sprayers, to poa and actually what golf course crews did on a daily basis. She has also been to a couple GIS shows during her time with GCSANE. This knowledge made it easier for her to work with us throughout the years.

During her tenure, she has seen several board of directors come and go, although only seeing a few board members go through the entire totem pole of duties, Newsletter to Past President. Together we jogged her memory and figured out who they were; Mike Hermanson, Bob Ruzala, and



Russ Heller. For those historians out there, we might be off a couple guys, keep in mind she has been retired for 4 days when we talked. Having worked closely with so many different boards, each with different personalities and ways of doing things, I asked her if she had any advice for boards moving forward and being successful. Without any hesitation Sharon said, "Attention to membership is paramount, it's important to make your members feel valued."

For the last two years Sharon and her husband Tom, whom she married in 1999, have been going over their retirement strategy. This was sparked by a recent period in their lives when they experienced some unfortunate and untimely losses. It became clear to the both of them that life is too short and that their "golden years" are approaching. I was surprised when she told me this because the woman behind the email address doesn't look a day over @&. Sharon and Tom both love to travel, and that is going to be a large part of the rest of their lives together. You'd wonder how would they afford to travel so much? I think between the four companies that they own together that they could travel around the world for years to come. Tom's father started a boat transporting business and is credited with designing a specific boat trailer that is used all around the world. They now move over 1000 boats every spring and fall from the Great Lakes to the Chesapeake Bay. They also own a records management business where they store company's important documents. Our association has started to do this with the goal of freeing up some office space for Don at the TPC of Boston's Golf House location. Tom and Sharon live in Mattapoisett where they also own 6.5 acres of consumer storage (YUP!). The storage units have commercial solar panels on top of them; which supply

*continued on page 2*

## GCSANE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### PRESIDENT

Jason S. Adams  
27 Cherry Street, Wrentham, MA 02093  
781-828-6540 Fax: 781-326-3801  
E-mail: jadams@bluehillcc.com  
Blue Hill Country Club

### VICE PRESIDENT

Michael W. Stachowicz  
68 Westfield Road, Westwood, MA 02090  
781-326-7860 Fax: 781-326-0664  
E-mail: Mstach@dedhamclub.org  
Dedham Country & Polo Club

### TREASURER

Mark Gagne  
233 Baker Street, Walpole, MA 02081  
508-668-3859 Fax: 508-668-9969  
E-mail: Mgagne@walpolecc.org  
Walpole Country Club

### SECRETARY

Michael Luccini, CGCS  
10 Griffin Road, Franklin, MA 02038  
508-520-3615 Fax: 508-528-1885  
E-mail: Mluccini@verizon.net  
Franklin Country Club

### TRUSTEE (Membership)

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508-823-0466 Fax 508-823-3915  
E-mail: scturf@hotmail.com  
Segregansett Country Club

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E-mail: Newtonmaint@aol.com  
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David Wallace  
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401-789-8177 Fax: 401-789-3895  
E-mail: dave@teegreensod.com  
New England Turf

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840 Oak Hill Road, Fitchburg, MA 01420  
978-342-6451 Fax 978-345-2044  
E-mail: slagana@oakhillcc.org  
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### NEWSLETTER CHAIRMAN

Jeffrey Urquhart  
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E-mail: jmartin101@gmail.com  
Milton-Hoosic Club

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508-872-9790 Fax: 508-872-5393  
E-mail: Pat@framinghamcc.com  
Framingham Country Club

### ASSOCIATION MANAGER

Donald E. Hearn, CGCS  
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### BUSINESS MANAGER, THE NEWSLETTER

Julie Heston  
Phone: (401) 934-7660 Email: jheston@verizon.net

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Web Site: www.gcsane.org

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## Sharon Brownell - continued from page 1

or store power to all four businesses and also their employees' homes. The local power company then buys any extra kilowatts that aren't used. I could tell that she is very proud of their endeavors and the success that it has brought them.

Although Sharon is flipping the page to the next chapter of her life, she'd like to keep in touch with several members of GCSANE. She has developed many professional relationships over the past 13 years and finds it hard to believe that won't continue for many years to come adding "I will miss a lot of guys, ask Don to keep me on the mailing list!" The Alumni Turf Group has been a part of her life as well and she is planning to continue working with them as well as running the community sailing program in her hometown.

We discussed how Don is going to do as the new chapter manager and she believes that he will be a huge asset to the association; he has to take it one day at a time and to enjoy it. Sharon mentioned "We've got the crew that will help him through it." Everyone has always worked with her to complete the necessary tasks that have been asked of her throughout the years and that will not change with Don in the driver's seat. She will offer her assistance for as long as it's needed. There are over 450 members of GCSANE, only 80 of which could pick Sharon out a crowd, but that doesn't matter because even if you don't know who she is, you know she will get the job done.

"It's been fun, I am looking forward to being on the peripheral and seeing the association grow." ❖

## GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION OF NEW ENGLAND

### ANNUAL MEETING

**Wednesday, January 4, 2012**

**Franklin Country Club, Franklin, MA  
Host - Michael Luccini, CGCS**

Reservations Required by Friday, December 30, 2011

Reservations 800-833-4451 or email: [donhearn@gcsane.org](mailto:donhearn@gcsane.org)

Cost \$45 Retirees \$20

Now Accepting American Express and Visa/Master Card  
*Jacket and Tie Required for Winter Meetings*

**9:00 a.m. Board Meeting**

**10:00 a.m. Past President's Meeting**

**10:30 a.m. Registration**

**11:00 a.m. Regular Membership Meeting and Awards**

**12:15 p.m. Lunch**

**1:00 p.m. Mr. Rhett Evans, CEO, GCSAA**

**Directions:** From Route 95 South: Exit 9 (Route 1/Wrentham) to RT 140. Go left following Route 140 through Wrentham crossing Route 1A. Club is 2.6 miles on left.

From Route 495: Exit 16 (King St) to Franklin, Route 140. Right at lights, club is 1.3 miles on right

Club address: 672 East Central Street, Franklin, MA Phone: 508-528-9852

## DuPont granting refunds for Imprelis purchases

DuPont has established a return and refund program for customers who have purchased Imprelis herbicide.

The U.S. Environmental and Protection Agency ordered the company to halt all sales of the herbicide after complaints from customers that the product had damaged or killed non-target trees. DuPont had voluntarily suspended sales of the product on Aug. 4.

Distributors or DuPont customers can visit [www.imprelis-facts.com](http://www.imprelis-facts.com) for more information about returning unused product and getting a refund.

With the active ingredient potassium salt of aminocyclopyrachlor, Imprelis is a Group 4 herbicide that was promoted as an environmentally safe product that represents a new sub class of chemistry – pyrimidinecarboxylic acid. With the active ingredient potassium salt of aminocyclopyrachlor, Imprelis is labeled for control of a variety of broadleaf weeds in cool-season and warm-season grasses, including golf courses, athletic fields and sod farms as well as commercial and residential landscape applications.

Professional turf managers and private homeowners in two-dozen states say the herbicide also has affected healthy non-target trees – primarily spruce trees.

The Imprelis label states: “Do not apply this product directly to, or allow spray drift to come in contact with, ornamental groundcovers, foliage plants, flowers, trees, shrubs, nearby crop plants or other desirable plants; or to the soil where potentially sensitive plants will be planted during the same season.”

While promoted as a safe product for trees, Imprelis contains the same active ingredient as Streamline herbicide, which is marketed by DuPont for brush control. The Streamline label includes application rates for control of more than a dozen varieties of trees, including spruce.

**Michigan State University** offers information about how to deal with trees that might be affected by Imprelis. Likewise, other universities, including **Nebraska** and **Wisconsin** have established Web pages to handle Imprelis-related questions from users. ❖

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**CHAMPIONSHIP**  
PLAYING CONDITIONS  
**EVERY DAY,**  
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We offer you the soil testing, the analysis, the range of turf management products and the depth of support that no one else can match. Because it's not just about selling you supplies. Its about supplying you with everything you need to be successful. *With Tom Irwin, you're not alone.*

Call Fred Murray at **(800) 582-5959** to be connected to the Tom Irwin advisor who can help you realize your goals.



# Remembering Tony Caranci

By Don Hearn

Tuesday evening December 6, Jason Adams and I attended the Rhode Island Golf Association's Hall of Fame Induction at the Ledgemont Country Club. We joined with twenty-five other superintendents and an overflow crowd to honor Tony Caranci and his fellow inductees and award winners.

Mark Richard, Superintendent of the Kirkbrae Country Club and a past president of the Rhode Island Golf Course Superintendents Association, made an eloquent induction presentation on behalf of Tony's friends and family.

The site of the event was fitting as it was the course where Tony was the superintendent for forty-three years. That's not a typo. He was the superintendent at Ledgemont for forty-three years. What a record!

I knew of Tony a few years before actually meeting him. I don't remember the exact time I met him but I believe it to be in mid 1970. He was a genuinely likeable person. A nice guy who loved to promote the profession of the golf course superintendent.

He was well known for his yearly budget meetings where fellow superintendents would discuss budgets in detail. The information that came from these meetings served many of us in ways that helped level the field when requesting budget funding at our clubs.

As you might imagine, Tony would drive many club officials crazy when they found out these meetings were taking place. It didn't bother him though. In fact, he seemed to enjoy "giving them the business."

Tony was also politically active as a member of the North Providence Town Council. For many years I had a "Caranci for Councilor" pen clipped to my shirt. He would get a kick out of me asking him for another when the ink finally ran out.

He was a Past President of both the Rhode Island and New England Superintendents Associations. And a recipient of the Distinguished Service Award from both the GCSA of



Harry McCracken and Jason Adams

New England and the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America. He received the accolades and admiration from everyone in the business.

I always enjoyed listening to him make his presentation on the subject of budgets, labor and member expectations. He was a raconteur and would always have a smile on his face when detailing his reasons for telling it the way it was.

Tony has been and will continue to be missed by his friends. He was one of those people you meet along the highway of life who would always stop to give you a lift.

The Rhode Island Golf Association and their Hall of Fame Committee are to be congratulated for choosing Tony Caranci as the first golf course superintendent to be a member of their Hall of Fame. ❖



***When asking for some new equipment a board member noted "Hey, you're not saving lives out there." Initially I was upset, but this helped me put things in perspective as to what we really need to complete our job. Also reminding me that "our job", when it really comes down to it, is growing grass so another human can come play on it. When times are tough and I find myself becoming angered during the course of the day, I take a breath and remind myself "Hey, I'm not saving lives out here".***

***Your editor  
2011***

# NEW Lower Rates to Help Make Advertising in The Newsletter More Budget Conscious

## THE NEWSLETTER 2012 DISPLAY ADVERTISING ORDER FORM

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<u>Member Rates:</u>	Monthly Rate	4 Times Per Yr. (Save 5%)	6 Times Per Yr. (Save 10%)	8 Times Per Yr. (Save 10%)	Annual Rate (Save 15%)
<input type="checkbox"/> 1/4 page (vertical; 3.75" wide x 5" deep)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 90.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 342.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 486.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 648.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 918.00
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### Ad Preparation Specifications:

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**Send all Newsletter ads to:**

Julie Heston

36 Elisha Mathewson Road, N. Scituate, RI 02857

Phone: 401-934-7660 / Fax: 401-934-9901

jheston@verizon.net

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Congratulations to Justin Santos who is the proud father of Elena Irene Santos born December 1, 2011.

As in the past, *The Newsletter* continues to invite Affiliate members to submit a press release about new personnel, new products or a company bio. We will print each and every release **free of charge**. This is a great way to advertise for free. Who said nothing in this world is free? Free advertising to better your company, wow what an offer.

Jeff Urquhart, Editor

## **EDUCATION**

RIGCSA Member, Tim Gerrish is offering 2 classes through UMass Amherst Continuing & Professional Education program.

The **Golf & Sports Turf Design & Construction** for-credit class is **STOCKSCH 297G**. The non-credit class is **LLPARKS 30**. Both courses are offered through CPE. Please note, at UMass students pay for courses through CPE. Details of course can be found on their website <http://www.umassulearn.net/classes/spring-2012>

## **9 Hole Budget Survey**



**If you'd like to be involved in this year's survey, please email Jeff Urquhart at [jmartin101@gmail.com](mailto:jmartin101@gmail.com).**

*(So far we have 6 participants, yes 6.)*

## **ON THE MOVE**

- **Noah Goldstein**, formerly (C) at Walpole Country Club, is now (C) at Old Sandwich Golf Club in Plymouth.
- **William H. Hauser**, formerly (S) at University of Massachusetts, is now (C) at International Golf Club Inc. in Bolton.
- **Zachary W. Purinton**, formerly (C) at Eastward Ho! Country Club, is now (C) at Ipswich Country Club in Ipswich.
- **Patrick J. Sullivan**, formerly (SM) at Shining Rock Golf Club, is now (SM) at Pembroke Country Club in Pembroke.
- **Richard Walworth**, formerly (C) at Glen Oaks Club, Inc. is now (C) at International Golf Club Inc. in Bolton.
- **Peter J. White III**, formerly (S) at Stockbridge School of Agriculture, is now (S) at University of Massachusetts in Amherst.

*Originally published in the December 2011 issue of Golf Course Management magazine.*

## **WEB SITE ADS - BILLING NOTE**

The website advertisers will be receiving a bill requesting \$500 for the annual renewal of their banner ad. Most will be using January as their billing cycle, with others falling around August or so. If you choose not to renew, please let Don Hearn or myself (Jeff Urquhart) know so we can remove the banner ad from the website. I will not set a specific deadline for the payment, but let's say if we do not hear from you before March it will be removed or you will have to pay the start up fee again if you'd like to continue with us. The website will be getting a major upgrade this year so I would entice you to stay with us for 2012 and beyond. Thank you for your participation.

## **GCSANE Offers Website Banner advertising at [www.gcsane.org](http://www.gcsane.org)**



**The price is \$500 for one year which will be re-occurring annually from your first billing unless otherwise specified.**

**For more information, please contact Jeff Urquhart at 781-828-2953 or [jmartin101@gmail.com](mailto:jmartin101@gmail.com)**

# Please Patronize these **FRIENDS** of the **ASSOCIATION**

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Root zone mixes, divot mixes, topdressing blends, bunker sands,  
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Charlie Downing, Rob Fitzpatrick - (800) 4-AA-WILL  
[www.aawillmaterials.com](http://www.aawillmaterials.com)

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158 Tihonet Road, Wareham, MA 02571 (508) 322-4092

## **Agresource, Inc.**

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## **Ahearn Equipment**

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Full service equipment dealer. Kubota tractors, Stihl power  
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## **Allen's Seed Store, Inc.**

693 S. County Trail, Exeter, RI 02822  
Specializing in quality seed and related golf course maintenance  
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Gregg Allen - (800) 527-3898 Michelle Maltais - (401) 835-0287

## **The Andersons Technologies, Inc.**

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

## **Atlantic Golf and Turf**

9 Industrial Boulevard, Turners Falls, MA 01376  
Specializing in agronomy through the distribution of fertilizer, seed  
and chemicals throughout New England.  
Chris Cowan (413) 530-5040, Gregg Mackintosh (508) 525-5142,  
Scott Mackintosh CPAg (774) 551-6083

## **Atlantic Silica, Inc.**

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## **Barenbrug USA**

*Great in Grass* 166 Juniper Drive, North Kingstown, RI 02852  
Bruce Chapman, Territory Manager (401) 578-2300

## **BASF Turf & Ornamental**

47 Falmouth Rd., Longmeadow, MA 01106  
"We don't make the turf. We make it better."  
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## **The Borden Company**

114 Summer St., Maynard, MA 01754  
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## **Boston Irrigation Supply Co. (BISCO)**

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Distributor, irrigation supplies & accessories, featuring Rain Bird.  
Andrew Langlois, Jay Anderson III, Dan Fuller, Jeff Brown, Greg  
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## **The Cardinals, Inc.**

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Golf course and landscape supplies.  
John Callahan, Dennis Friel - (800) 861-6256

## **Cavicchio Landscape Supply, Inc.**

110 Codjer Lane, Sudbury, MA 01776  
Annuals, perennials, garden mums, ground covers, loam, & mulch.  
Darren Young - (978) 443-7177

## **Charles C. Hart Seed Co., Inc.**

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Authorized distributor for Bayer, Syngenta, Grigg Bros., Foliar Fer-  
tilizer, & Aquatrols.  
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## **Country Club Enterprises**

PO Box 670, 29 Tobey Rd., W. Wareham, MA 02676  
Club Car golf cars, Carryall utility vehicles.  
Dave Farina, Keith Tortorella, Mike Turner (800) 662-2585

## **DAF Services, Inc.**

20 Lawnacre Rd., Windsor Locks, CT 06096  
Irrigation pumps - sales & service; northeast warehouse/distributor  
for ISCO HDPE pipe & fittings. Richard Young - (860) 623-5207

## **DGM Systems**

1 Snagwood Rd., Foster, RI 02825  
Your New England specialty products distributor: Reelcraft, POK,  
Allen, Kenyon, Echo, Carhartt Office - (401) 647-0550  
Manny Mihailides - (401) 524-8999  
David Mihailides - (401) 742-1177

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8 Meadow Park Road, Plymouth, MA 02360  
Serving the GCSANE for over 20 years. Planning to proposal to  
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## **G. Fialkosky Lawn Sprinklers**

PO Box 600645., Newton, MA 02460  
Irrigation services to golf courses throughout New England.  
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(508) 428-3022

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Offering our customers the most complete  
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## **Ken Jones Tire, Inc.**

71-73 Chandler St., Worcester, MA 01613  
Distributor of tires for lawn & garden, trucks, cars, industrial equip-  
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## **Larchmont Engineering & Irrigation**

11 Larchmont Lane, Lexington, MA 02420-4483  
Kevin Rudat - (781) 862-2550

## **Lazaro's Golf Course Supplies & Accessories**

dba Hammond Paint and Chemical Co., Inc.  
738 Main St., Suite 223, Waltham, MA 02154  
Complete line of golf course accessories; Standard, Par Aide,  
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## **Maher Services**

71 Concord Street, N. Reading, MA 01864  
Specializes in Water well drilling, pump sales, pump repair, well  
redevelopment and preventative maintenance  
Peter Maher (978) 664-WELL (9355) Fax (978) 664-9356

## **MAS Golf Course Construction LLC**

60 Hope Ave., Ste. 107, Waltham, MA 02453  
Fulfilling all your renovation and construction needs.  
www.masgolfconstruction.com Matthew Staffieri (508) 243-2443

## **Maltby & Company**

30 Old Page Street, P.O. Box 364, Stoughton, MA 02072  
Provides expert tree pruning, tree removal and tree planting ser-  
vices. Our two other divisions include Natural Tree & Lawn Care,  
which treats for winter moth caterpillars, ticks and mosquitoes etc.  
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