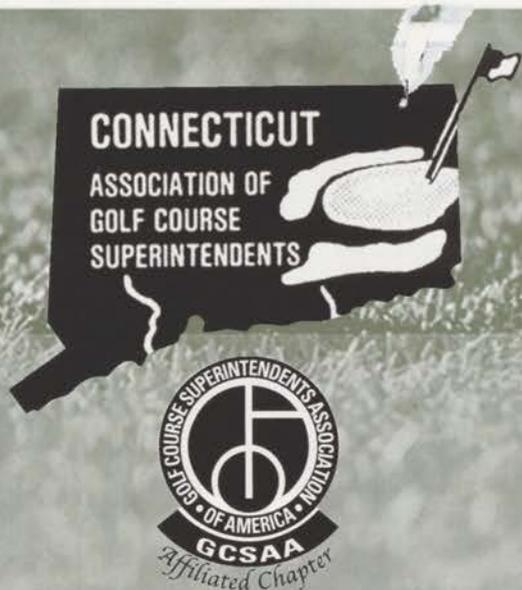


# Connecticut Clippings



Volume 36, No. 4

September/October, 2002

## EZ GO and Great River Golf Club Host 2002 CAGCS Invitational

By Peter Pierson, GCS Pequabuck GC

September 19, 2002 was a beautiful day in Milford, CT as representatives of 37 CAGCS member's clubs and an EZ GO foursome gathered for the 2002 Invitational.

This was the first visit for most participants to this Tom Fazio designed layout which opened in 2000. Host superintendent Willie Wilson has been up against it since salt water intruded into his irrigation supply. Willie's staff has been doing double duty to assist in the recovery of the damaged turf.

Tom Rositti, PGA Professional and Mike Schimanna, Tournament Director and their staff were great hosts in getting the 152 players into the starting gate, running the race and completing the round before dark.

Joe Pettite, Operations Manager had his staff in high gear serving a wonderful buffet luncheon and a great selection of hors d'oeuvres upon completion of play.

Doug Hopper, EZ GO New England Sales Representative, presented each participant with a personal travel bag. Doug thanked everyone for attending and looked forward to the continued involvement of EZ GO with the Invitational and CAGCS.

Mary Jo Kennedy must be acknowledged for getting everything organized from the printing of the invitations, keeping up with the reservations and completing the final team list. Now Mary Jo will be sending Thank You's from CAGCS. Thank you for all your help.

Racebrook C.C., John Gallagher, superintendent took home low gross honors with a fine score of 66. Racebrook did win by a match of cards with Oakridge G.C., Ken Modzelesky, superintendent. Third low gross honors went to the 2001 Invitational gross winner, Indian Hill C.C., Kevin Bengston, superintendent.

Stanley Golf Course, John Napier, superintendent, won low net honors with a score of 58 with



Racebrook GC Team

a match of cards with Twin Hills C.C., Mike McDermott, superintendent. Third low net honors went to Airways Golf Club, John Case, superintendent.

### Skill prizes:

- # 2 Eric Morrison, Shennecossett 4' 5"
- # 8 Chad Esposito, Highland G.C. 5' 11"
- #10 Rob Barbeau, Old Lyme C.C. 4' 6"
- #15 Ken Modzelesky, Oakridge G.C. 7' 5"

### Long Drive

Roberta Islieb, Madison C.C.

### Closest to Line

Art Lowell, Canton Public Golf Course



Stanley GC Team



Jud W. Smith, CAGCS President

### "The Summer of '02"

For the last month or so, I thought it was just me. You know, getting older, afternoon naps, preferring sleeping to eating, etc. Even full sentences are hard to come by. I'm thinking, "What is kicking my tail?"

So one morning I'm talking to my assistant Joe and ask "Joe, are you tired?" He says, "Tired? Dude, I'm BONE TIRED." Hum, bone tired, that's just not really tired or dog tired, that is a deep, down to the core, tired. I'm relieved because it isn't just me. So we talk, I philosophized and Joe states the facts...half the crew is back in school, and another third is part time. Okay, so we're a little lean, everybody's leaner in September. That still doesn't explain that bone tired feeling. After talking to many of you at monthly meetings, the Invitational or on the phone I realize it isn't just me but rather...The Winter that wasn't and the Summer that DEFINITELY was! So, I guess I'll talk about the weather - that's novel, and not too philosophical and the editor will be happy...!

The year in review (thus far)...course closed for 60 days (not because we had to) but because of six, fresh, unrepaired divots found on January 14th.

That's right, no measurable snow and the gates reopened March 15.... let the games begin! April finds us mowing and trimming wet areas we couldn't normally get into until

late June. In fact, April provided three consecutive days over 90°+...time to fire up the irrigation system...already? Add a few lighting strikes to very strategic locations and we roll right into the infamous 100-day war! Not only did we have one of the driest on record, but also, there were thirty days over 90° and three days over 100°. Unlike the summer of '99, when you could put out as much water as you had, this summer was noted for its heat and humidity. It truly tested your skills in irrigation management and effective fungicide applications. Numerous times I remember scratching my head saying, "I thought we sprayed for that last week?" and in fact, we did. How could it be? Doesn't matter, out with the spray tank again!!! When will this end? The last part of August and early September found much needed rain, grass is moving again and it's time to aerify.... but wait, where is everybody? Oh well, what else is new? Projects start.... and the leaves are beginning to fall. September used to be my favorite month...no more. I'm picking a new month, perhaps January. We used to have snow in January, not last January, but normally we do, don't we? Forget about looking forward to the first frost...I'm looking forward to the first snow and not just a dusting either, because they will still want to play in the afternoon!! I can't

wait to put up that beloved sign "Course Closed", I just have to find it...!!

When all is said and done and one has time to reflect on things...It truly is a wonderful life if we learn to take the good with the bad. Who knows, next summer we might have to fire up the irrigation system in August, just to germinate seed. (Hey, I can dream can't I?).

We are heading into that time of the year in our profession in the Northeast when things take on a little different hue. There is time to reconnect with the family, take a day or two off or even deal with the giant pile of paperwork on your desk that seems to have just gotten there!!

Oh yes, we can't forget the Water Diversion Permitting Process!!!

Well folks, it won't be long before the plows go on the trucks, there is a fire roaring in the den, your better half has the crock-pot on low and you get to sit back, relax and watch... GOLF on TV!! I mean, sit back, relax and be thankful for all that we have and remember...it's only grass...it will grow in spite of what we do to it. Keep the faith, it is just another year of experience and any experience is beneficial as long as we don't suffer any permanent mental or physical damage....Now it's time for that nap...I just have to find the dogs!!!

Peace,  
Jud

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## New England Regional Turfgrass Conference News

From Gary Sykes, Executive Director

The New England Regional Turfgrass Foundation would like to announce the following concerning next year's Conference and Trade Show; March 18-20th, 2003! Mark your calendar now. We are currently finishing up our education program confirmations, and the booths sales are on schedule to equal last year's record floor space. Everything indicates the show will be another fabulous event. Here are some of the planned highlights!

Pre-conference 1/2 day seminars on Monday, March 17, 2003:

1. Annual Bluegrass Management (GCSAA) Dr. Frank Rossi, Cornell University
2. Bunker Maintenance, Placement and Construction Craig Schreiner, Golf Course Architect
3. CPR and AED Training Local Training

On Tuesday, March 18, 2003 the New England Regional Turfgrass Conference will host "A Day with the USGA." The USGA Northeast Regional Office David Oatis, Jim Skorulski, Jim Baird and along with Jim Farrell will put together a Rules Seminar in the morning and specialized presentations in the afternoon to draw not only the interests of superintendents, but Club Officials and Pros as well. We hope you will take advantage of this opportunity to bring those from your club that might help enhance your situations. After the USGA session, the keynote presentation will be given by the popular former NFL player and head coach Mike Ditka! Already there seems to be a lot of interest in Coach Ditka being at the show this year.

Speaking of sports, Tuesday will also offer a great opportunity for those managing sport turf areas. Paul Zwaska of Beacon Ballfields will present a 3-hour seminar on "Infield Construction", from 1-3:45pm. Local Little League and Babe Ruth League officers might want to be there! This will mark the first time we have tried to have 2

days of education for those who manage sports fields. Help us pass the word!

Everything is on track for this to be an even bigger and better conference and show than last year. Several speaker commitments have already been made including Dr. Frank Rossi, Dr. Robert Carrow, Dr. Bruce Clark, Architect Mark Mungeam and many others. The popular bookstore and the silent auction will be back again too! The trade show floor is filling up fast!

One last reminder to all retired members. If your name is listed in any of the local chapters of GCSAA, MALCP or NESTMA membership directories, as a retired or honorary member, then you are invited to come to the turfgrass conference and show free of charge for 1 or all three days! We hope everyone in the turf industry in the New England area past and present has an opportunity to be a part of this years 6th annual New England Regional Turfgrass Conference and Show! You gotta be there!

*Editors Note, Lets have a strong show of our membership at this years conference to support Phil Neaton, this years New England Regional Turfgrass Conference President.*



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### Superintendent Profile

#### Willy Wilson, GCS Great River GC, Milford, CT

On the site of the former Millstone GC, Golf Course Architect, Tommy Fazio created an entirely different layout. Actually, none of the former course was used, most will be converted to homesites. Participants of this years Invitational Tournament were treated to one of the most talked about and acclaimed golf courses in the State, or make that the Northeast. Great River GC is a long challenging course laid out along the bank of the Housatonic River.

Early on in the construction process the owners were wise in hiring Willy Wilson as their golf course superintendent. Wilson formerly from Hamden, started out by working part time for Jim MacDonald at New Haven CC. Here he began to embellish the profession that had been part of his entire life. The grandson of famed Al Wilson, Sr, former professional, golf and soccer coach at Yale and son of Al

Wilson Jr., former superintendent at the Playboy Club and other clubs in New Jersey.

Willy attended Stockbridge School of Agriculture and received his degree in Turf Management from Lake City, in Lake City, Florida. After internships at Ipswitch CC and Rockrimmon CC, Willy went on to become the Assistant Superintendent at Hudson National under Greg Stanley. Willy enjoys his job at Great River where he deals with course owners rather than committees.

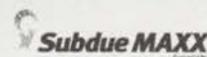
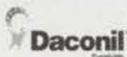
His heritage along with his experience and major dollars to work with have helped Willy make what Great River is today. His maintenance facility is one of the best. Course condition is superb. Even though the course was only built in 1999 a few construction projects are underway. Over 6,000 feet of drainage was just completed and a couple of tees will be enlarged. Just shows there is always room for improvement. Great River GC hosts about 32,000 rounds of golf. Favorite

hole? # 12 with the ravine. Least favorite is salt water intrusion from the Housatonic River. Mother Nature is difficult to deal with.

Willy and his wife Cathy, a para legal live in Milford. Cathy enjoys jet skiing and bike riding, while Willy enjoys Cathy, golf and fishing.



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**July 22, 2002 Meeting  
Shuttle Meadow Country Club Golf**

Flight A (0-9)  
1st gross - Les Kennedy, Jr., CGCS - 72  
2nd gross - Mike Dukette - 74

1st net - Scott MacIntosh - 67  
2nd net - Mark Grenert - 68  
3rd net - Walter Wozniak - 70  
4th net - Greg Stanley - 71 mc

Flight B (10-15)  
1st gross - Chris Mauro - 75  
2nd gross - Ward Weischet, CGCS - 81

1st net - James Calladio, CGCS - 67  
2nd net - Paul Bonini - 71 mc  
3rd net - Bret Armstrong - 71  
4th net - Tom Watroba - 72

Flight C (16-24)  
1st gross - Joe Trosky - 79  
2nd gross - Wayne Urban - 84

1st net - Steve Roberts - 66  
2nd net - Mark Weston - 69 mc  
3rd net - Joe Malay - 69  
4th net - Mike McDermott - 74

Flight D (25-36)  
1st gross - Greg Bradley - 94  
2nd gross - Byron Johnson - 96

1st net - James Wierzbicki - 70  
2nd net - Peter Burnham, CGCS - 72  
3rd net - Dave Basconi - 75  
4th net - Robert Golia - 77 mc

Calloway - 1st - Lenny Grippo - 72  
Closest to Pin #9 - Les Kennedy,  
CGCS - 9'3"

#11 - Dick Gurski - 3'10"  
Longest Drive #3 - Walt Wozniak  
Closest To Line #18 - Marc Weston  
Longest Putt #13 - Lawrence Pakkala,  
CGCS - 23'8"  
#15 - Mark Grenert - 36'

Skins: #1 Chris Mauro  
#2 James Calladio  
#8 Les Kennedy, Jr., CGCS  
#9 Greg Stent  
#10 Scott MacIntosh  
#12 Scott MacIntosh  
#13 John Motycka --- Hole in One

Kickers: Chad Esposito, Peter Grace, Mark  
Chant, Dennis Petruzzelli, CGCS, Keith  
Angilly

**CAGCS Invitational  
Great River Golf Course  
September 19, 2002**

1st Gross - Race Brook Country Club - 66 mc  
John Gallagher  
Bill Simone  
Art LeBrek  
Frank Selva

1st Net - Stanley Golf Course - 58 mc  
John Napier  
Greg Karakashian  
Greg Yeomans  
Kevin DeVaux

2nd Gross - Oakridge Golf Club - 66 mc  
Ken Modzelesky  
Jim Modzelesky  
Paul Strycharz  
Fran Gearty

2nd Net - Twin Hills Country Club - 59 mc  
Mike McDermott  
Eric DeStefano  
Frank McDermott

Randy Holmes  
3rd Gross - Indian Hills Country Club - 67  
Kevin Bengtson  
Michael Gallon  
Rob Gai  
Jim Bedus  
3rd Net - Airways Golf Course - 59  
Jon Case  
John Rabbett  
Harry Holmes  
Mike Kuszik

**August 5, 2002 Meeting  
Clinton Country Club  
Golf Results**

1st Gross - James Calladio - 171  
Marc Weston  
1st Net - John Fleming - 132  
Dave Basconi  
2nd Gross - Mike Dukette - 172  
Owen Regan  
2nd Net - Larry Dodge - 135  
John Napier  
3rd Gross - Brian Pope - 175  
Rob Larsen  
3rd Net - Mike Chrzanowski - 142  
Anthony Grosso  
4th Gross - Chad Esposito - 178  
Robert Golia  
4th Net - Tom Watroba - 145  
Joe Malay  
5th Gross - Wayne Urban - 180  
Mike Cook  
5th Net - Lawrence Barrett - 145  
Bruce Morse  
Closest to the Line - Mike Chrzanowski - 2"  
Long Drive - Mike Dukette - 310  
Closest to Pin - Jim Calladio - 13'1"  
Larry Barrett - 3'5"  
Long Putt - Mike Chrzanowski - 17'2"  
Greg Bradley - 19'

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John Fleming; Class Commercial  
Water Specialists, LLC

Mathew Gomes; Class C  
Country Club of Farmington

Rob Larson; Class Commercial  
Tom Irwin, Inc.

Brett Turner, Class C  
Blue Fox Run Golf Course

15th. Morgan Ellen; 5lbs 5 ounces  
and Cassidy Rose; 5 lbs. 2 ounces.

Scott Niven, CGCS, The Stanwich  
Club on hosting the USGA Mid-  
Amateur Championship September  
21-26, 2002.

Golf Course Architect Pete Dye has  
been named the 2003 recipient of  
GCSAA's highest honor, the Old  
Tom Morris Award. Dye has worked  
here in Connecticut. Most notably  
the first rebuild of TPC @ River  
Highlands, and presently  
Wintonbury Hills in Bloomfield.

awards: Brian J. Basconi, son of  
David Basconi; Amy L.  
Chrzanowski, daughter of Michael  
Chanowski; Erica E. Cooper,  
daughter of Douglas Cooper; Jayne  
M. Donovan, daughter of Shawn  
Donovan; Kelly A. Jones Fuller,  
daughter of Mark Fuller; Jana R.  
Loper, daughter of Mark Loper;  
Colleen Moore, daughter of Glen  
Moore; Kyle B. Morse, daughter of  
Bruce Morse; Katherine B. Rackliffe,  
daughter of Steven Rackliffe, GCCS;  
Teri L. Vibber, daughter of David E.  
Vibber and Robert J. Wagner who is  
employed at Race Brook Country  
Club, John M. Gallagher, III, Golf  
Course Superintendent.

### Condolences

To Patrick Cragin and his family on  
the passing of his father Allan E.  
Cragin, 78, of Newtown, CT on  
Wednesday October 2, 2002.

John Streeter on the passing of his  
mother Vivian Streeter on Sunday  
September 29, 2002.

### Congratulations

Daniel Shay, superintendent at  
Country Club of Wilbraham and his  
wife Debbie on the birth of their  
twin girls who arrived on August

### CAGCS Awards Annual Scholarships

The following are recipients of the  
2002 CAGCS scholarships, which  
are awarded annually to immediate  
CAGCS family members and to  
employees of members who are  
majoring in turf management.

Dr. Richard Skogley Scholarship  
recipient: Michael S. Chrzanowski,  
son of Michael Chrzanowski

The John Lynch Scholarship  
recipient: Alan D. Vibber, son of  
David E. Vibber

Others receiving scholarship

The Board of Directors and  
members of the Connecticut  
Association of Golf Course Super-  
intendents want to congratulate all  
recipients, and wish them the best in  
their scholastic endeavors.

The Priscilla Maxwell Endicott  
Scholarship Fund sponsored by the  
Connecticut Womens Golf  
Association is selling bag tags to  
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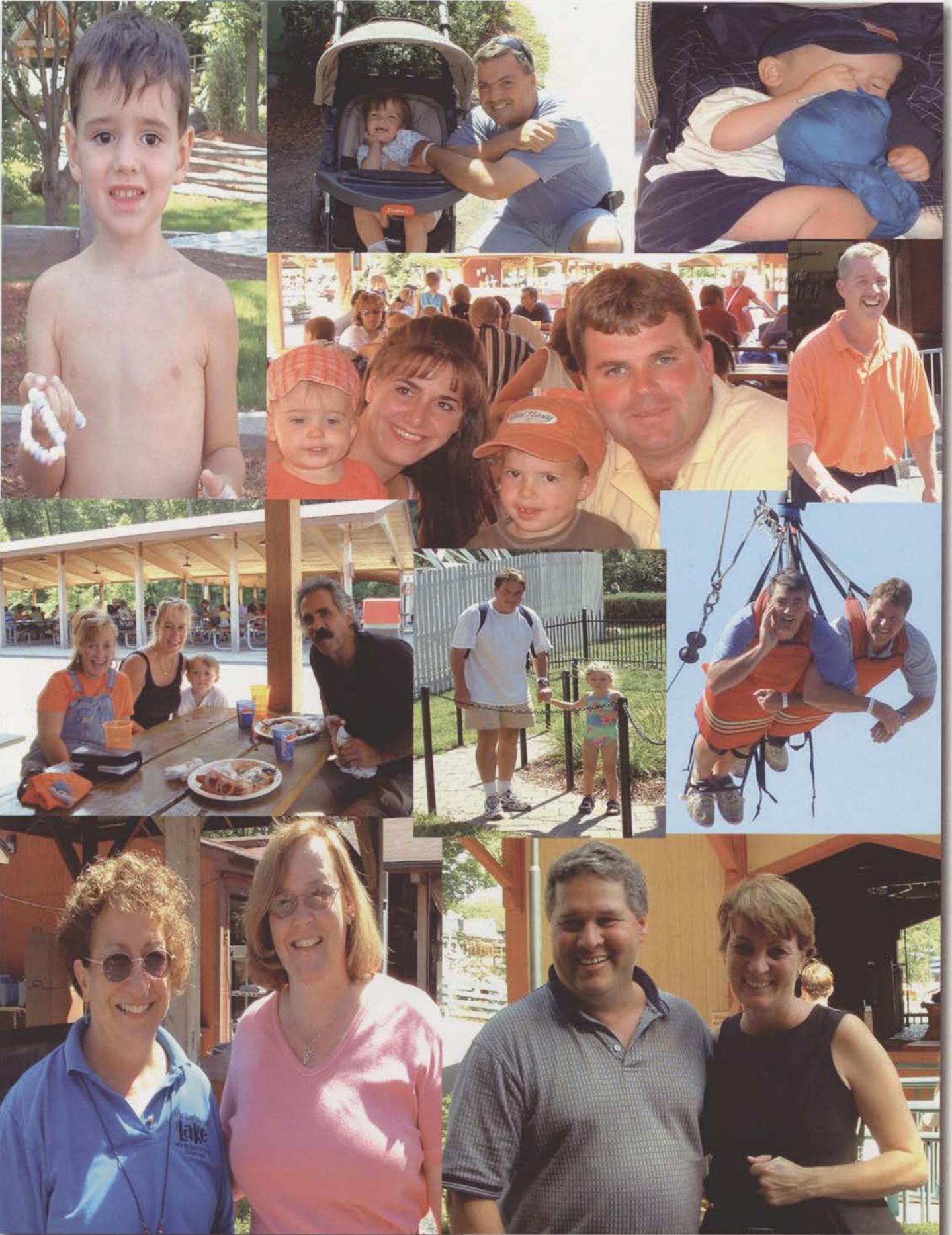
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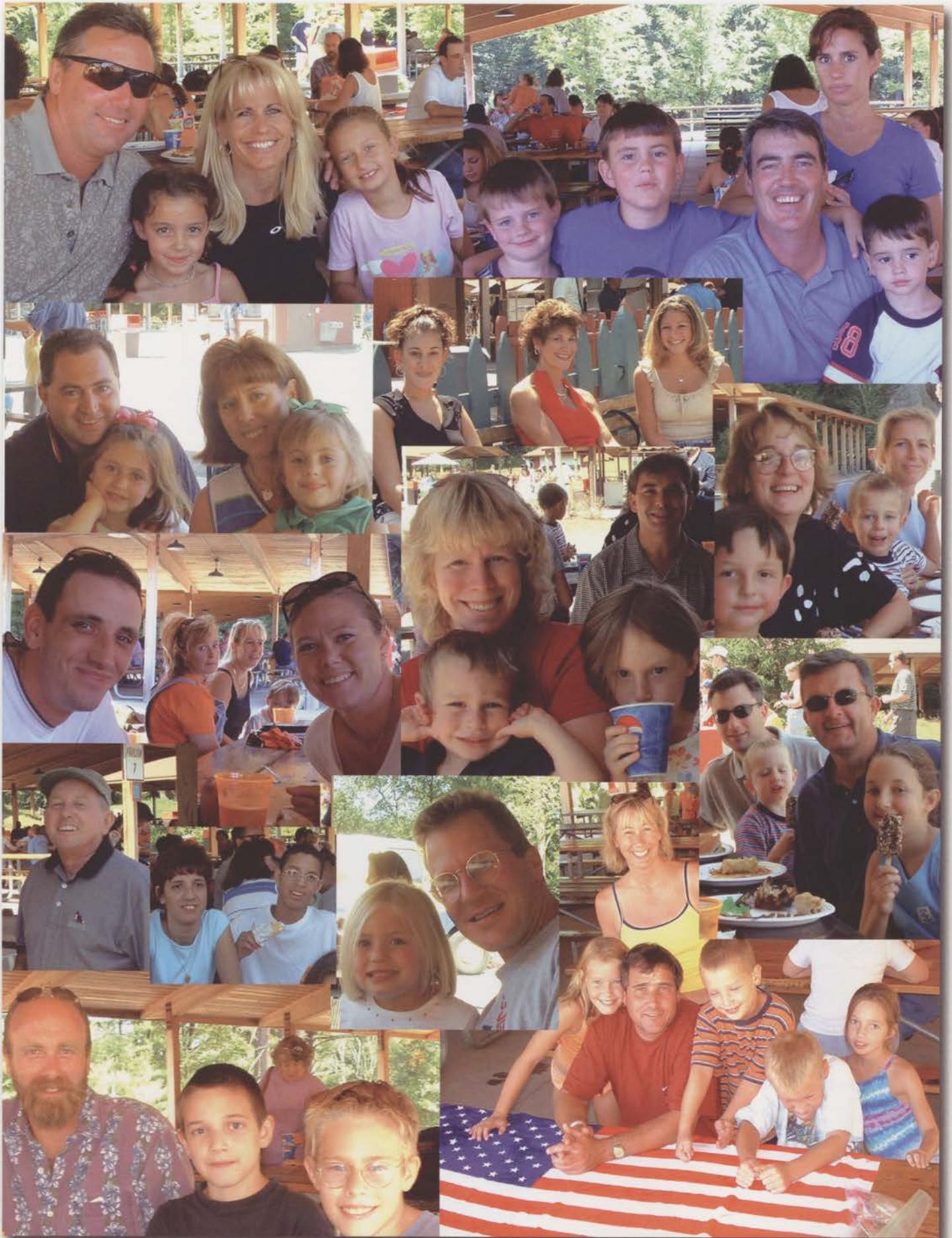
David Wallace

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# 2002 Family Day • Lake Compounce



# 2002 Family Day • Lake Compounce



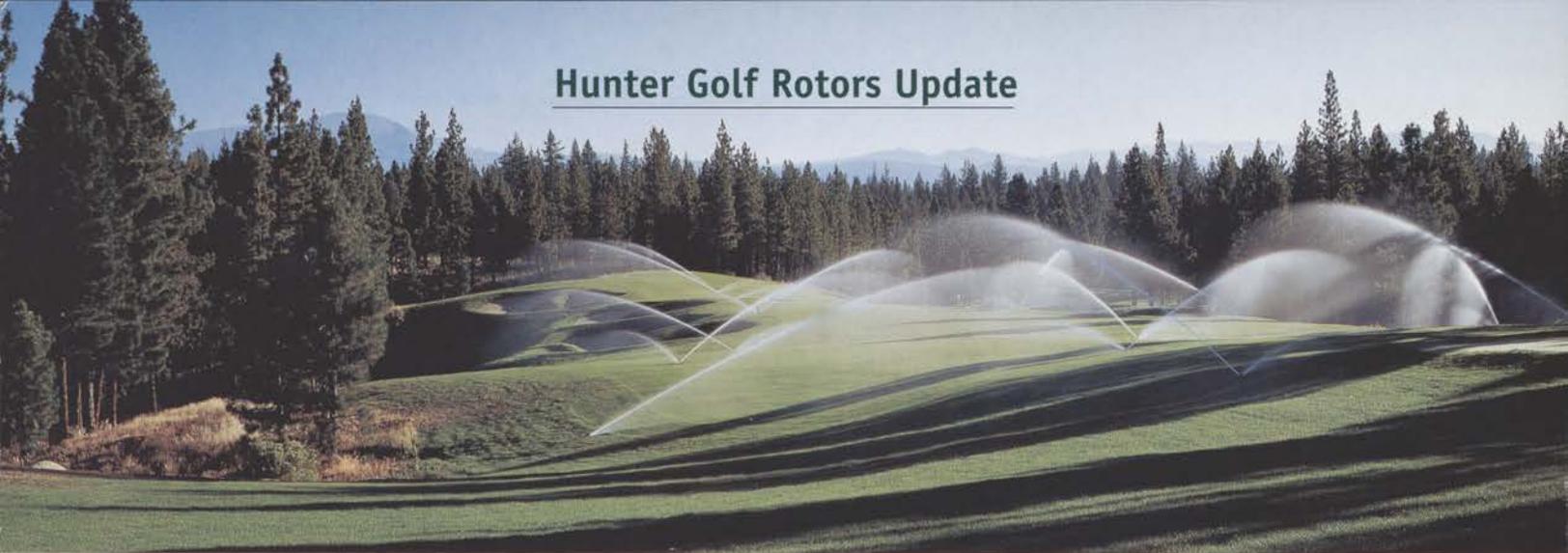
# 2002 Invitational • Great River Golf Club



# 2002 Invitational • Great River Golf Club



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Remove solenoid, wire connections, pilot valve and adjustable regulator...



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## Hunter G800 Rotor Close-Up

All G800 Series rotors have a range of technically-advanced features, including Total Top Service with new integrated valve,

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- 6.5 to 21.6 gpm

### G870/875



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- Through-the-Top Servicing
- PressurePort™ technology for distribution uniformity
- Full circle or adjustable arc (40° to 360°)
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- 3 1/2" pop-up height
- 47' to 75' radius
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### G880



- Long Distance Rotor
- Through-the-Top Servicing
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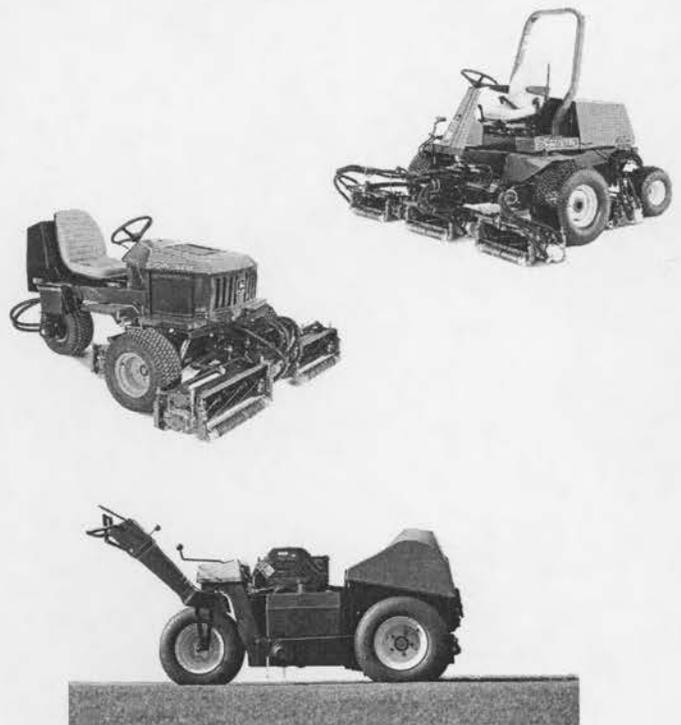
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**REMINDER.....**

**CAGCS ROOM BLOCK**  
Atlanta 2003 GCSAA housing forms are available. Please call the office to request one. Deadline for forms to be returned to office is October 30th.

**Wanted**

The University of Rhode Island is in need of sprinkler heads for their turf plots. Anyone that is interested in donating new or used heads please contact Dr. Michael Sullivan 401/874-4540

**Calendar**

*Cornell Turf Program*  
January 6-10/03 1 Week Course, Ithaca, NY  
January 13-17/03 An Organic Approach to Turf Management Western, NY  
February 17-21/03 An Organic Approach to Turf Management, Bethpage State Park, LI, NY  
Contact "[www.hort.cornell.edu/instruction/short/courses](http://www.hort.cornell.edu/instruction/short/courses)"

**Photo Credits**

Thank you to Dave Basconi for pictures taken at the CAGCS Invitational.

Thank you to Les & Mary Jo Kennedy and Sharon Napier for pictures taken during Family Day at Lake Compounce, where 179 members and guests had a fun filled day.



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## National News—Before It Hits the Stands

by Tim O'Neill, CGCS

My third full year as a GCSAA director has probably been the busiest of all. The year began with my unsuccessful bid for secretary/treasurer at our last Annual Meeting in Orlando, FL. Despite the defeat, I am extremely grateful for the tremendous support I received from the Met and surrounding associations throughout the Northeast.

I'm hoping that support will serve me well in my renewed campaign for this office and in the elections at the 2003 Annual Meeting in Atlanta.

In the meantime, I am serving the year in the customary way: attending board meetings and meetings of the three committees I chair: Career Development, Environmental Stewardship, and Communications.

Here's a quick peak at what's been happening...

### Tightening the Belt

As always, there was a spring board meeting. Held in May, the meeting's major focus was on reviewing and approving the next fiscal budget for the association. Though deciding the fate of the association's \$20 million is never

easy, this year it was particularly challenging. With a shaky economy, we were forced to look at ways to offset reduced revenues from our sponsors and advertisers.

We took great care in determining ways to streamline various aspects of our operation, cutting expenses — seamlessly — in such areas as student activities, historical preservation, and staffing requirements.

Employment Referral Service Expanded In April, I gathered our Career Development Committee for a meeting at headquarters. We had a packed agenda as the committee deliberated various aspects of GCSAA's career development department over the course of two days.

Among the votes was to keep the fee structure for the Employment Referral Service the same—a reasonable \$15 per year—and to add a benefit: the ability for subscribers to post their resumes online. Look for this new feature later this year.

In addition...

- We reviewed upcoming issues of Leader Board, our bimonthly publication targeted at employers and other decision makers.
- We rethought our involvement in college accreditation programs, deciding not to get more directly involved.

• We evaluated the supply and demand of turf students in various parts of the country and discussed ways to even the distribution. (In Florida, for instance, there are more available students than jobs, while in the North, there are more jobs than available students.)

• Last but not least, we tossed around topics for the educational sessions at the upcoming conference and show in Atlanta.

### Environmentally Friendly Links

As the chairman of the Environmental Stewardship Committee, I represented GCSAA at the fourth Golf and Environment Summit held in June at the National Arbor Day headquarters and conference center in Nebraska City, NB.

This meeting drew close to 100 of golf's leaders and representatives from the environmental community—in which GCSAA plays a significant role—in an effort to communicate golf's interaction with the environment.

During the conference, the Arbor Day Foundation opened a new environmentally friendly golf course called Arborlinks. Designed by The Arnold Palmer Design Company, the course developers took into consideration the existing habitat and carefully molded the course so that there's minimal disturbance to the existing ecosystem.

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Playing the golf course is an environmental adventure, with trees and plants tagged with brief descriptions of their growing characteristics and adaptability.

Palmer attended the first day of the conference and officially opened the new course. After comments about its construction and design, Palmer played nine holes with Chief Administrator of the EPA Christine Todd Whitman, who lauded Palmer's environmentally friendly efforts. Taking the stage, Whitman commented, "Having someone like Arnold Palmer speak about the environment substantiates that this issue really is foremost on the minds of people who play golf."

In all, it was a positive day for golf. Arborlinks is a great example of how well golf can co-exist with the environment.

By the way, I'm headed back to Nebraska City for the regularly scheduled meeting of the Environmental Stewardship Committee. We'll be meeting, once again, at the National Arbor Day headquarters and conference center in September.

**Building a Positive Image**

Last, but not least, I'm chairing the all-new Communications Committee,

which is charged with working with GCSAA's communications department to review and enhance public relations efforts and opportunities.

At a meeting in October, the committee has several discussion topics on the agenda. Among them is the Leadership Survey. Conducted—and made available—at every annual conference and show, it reflects superintendents' thoughts on a variety of golf- and grooming-related topics. What's more, it positions the superintendent as an industry expert and serves as an important vehicle for enhancing the image of the golf course superintendent. Interestingly, it has been picked up and run in such publications as USA Today, The New York Times, and The Los Angeles Times.

The 2002 Leadership Survey included the following — among many other — questions and superintendent responses:

- What contributes most to golfer expectations for course conditions?  
54%: television  
34%: comparison to other courses
- What is the most common complaint you hear from golfers?  
37%: slow greens  
24%: unrepaired ballmarks

• Which celebrity had the greatest chance of becoming a professional golfer?

Mario Lemieux

Watch for next year's survey at the conference in Atlanta. Be sure to stop by the members' online survey area and record your expert thoughts and opinions.

In October, the committee will also discuss ways to support superintendents hosting major golf events. Right now, GCSAA produces fact sheets for the media that describe the course and superintendent. We will be exploring other ways to offer support.

**Next Up**

This month, the board will be meeting once again—this time in Chicago. In between a lot of hard work, we might actually squeeze in time for a round of golf and possibly a White Sox game.

*Tim O'Neill, a GCSAA Board Director, is superintendent at the Country Club of Darien in Darien, CT.*

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## The Worst (Almost) Is Over

By Stanley J. Zontek, Director  
updated September 18, 2002

As the agronomists of the Green Section Mid-Atlantic Region continue to travel this fall, there is an all too common theme about this year. While the statistics may provide hard facts of just how dry and hot it was, numbers do not tell the human toll this summer has taken on the individuals who manage golf courses. Except for a few fall diseases and insects worth monitoring, the massive loss of turf that possibly could have occurred this summer is thankfully nothing more than just a bad memory. Many golf courses are still under water restrictions. These restrictions provide a challenge to germinate grass seed to aid in turfgrass recovery.

The first suggestion in this update is non-agronomic. It is to sit back and take a deep breath, and maybe offer an apology, if needed. It has been a challenging year for all golf courses, people and turf were under a huge amount of stress, and maybe saying I'm sorry for any grumpy words, the need to work overtime anything can help improve everyone conscience heading into the fall. Even the wonderful administrative assistants I have in this

office deserve a pat on the back (and maybe a free lunch) for surviving this summer (Note, even USGA agronomists get grumpy and impatient). A newly recognized problem on perennial ryegrass fairways has been identified. The disease is *Leptosphaerulina* blight. In the past, this leaf spot type disease has been associated with the gray leaf spot organism. This year, the disease has been identified on a small number of golf courses as a stand alone disease. The disease needs to be identified by a laboratory.

Finally, with the cooler weather and at least one soaking rainfall this month, the grass is beginning to recover, especially in the roughs. As an agronomist, I am constantly amazed at just how resilient grass can be. I am reminded of a quote from the late Professor Lawrence Dickinson from the University of Massachusetts, grass does not commit suicide. Grass has a wonderful dormancy mechanism unless we run enough traffic across the grass to kill it.

*Excerpted from the USGA website from good friend Stanley J. Zontek, Director*

*Editors note: As you write Annual Reports keep in mind most Chairman, Presidents etc. are not interested in your grueling season, with limited rainfall, no water in the pond and brown turf everywhere. "We were able to play golf everyday yet the course continued to deteriorate". By the way how is the tree planting coming along? What about that new tee on # 14? How come the new*

*green on # 2 didn't get done? Why were there so many grubs and weeds this year? And as you just read in the preceding article there is another new disease problem on the horizon. Enjoy the Off Season this winter.*

## WATER DIVERSION

The Dept. of Environmental Protection provides comprehensive water diversion reporting information on their web site at:

"<http://dep.state.ct.us/wtr/div/divinfo.htm>"

The Water Diversion Reporting Information Web site includes general information, important due dates, electronic reporting forms, information on diversion registrations and detailed instructions for reporting. A recent update to the site included a revised deadline of Jan. 23, 2003 for receipt of completed water diversion reporting forms.

Our thanks to Peter Rappoccio, CGCS, of Silver Spring CC in Ridgefield, Conn., who offers the following suggestion for completing the 18-page water diversion reporting form. Individuals can contact the Department of Maps and Publications or visit [topozone.com](http://topozone.com) to obtain a copy of the USGS topographical quadrangle map in 1:24,000 (on 8 1/2 by 11 paper) that must be submitted with the reporting forms.

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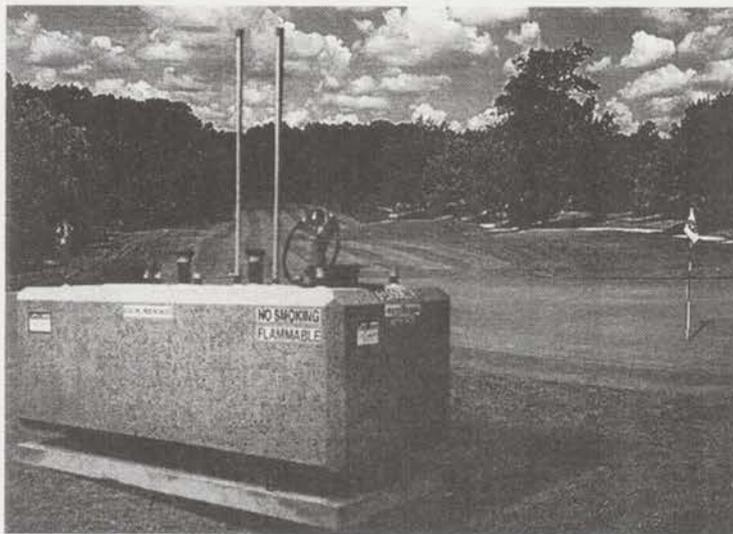


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**Finally, A Break in the Weather!**

By Darin S. Bevard, Agronomist  
updated 9-4-02

The end of August finally brought widespread relief to many drought stricken areas in the Mid-Atlantic Region. With water supplies nearly exhausted on some golf courses, heavy rains prevented what could have been a catastrophe on many fine turf areas. While brown fairways and roughs are still commonplace, the chance for recovery has arrived in most areas.

With the recent rains significant areas of cool-season grass are now breaking summer dormancy. Wait 7 to 10 days to determine how much turf recovery will occur from the existing grasses. Many superintendents have been surprised by the rapid green-up of areas they had long given up on as dead. As agronomists we sometimes forget the effectiveness of the cool-season grass drought mechanism, especially when concentrated traffic is prevented. Within a week, it will be

obvious which turfgrass areas are going to recover and which areas will need renovation. A patient will need renovation. A patient approach prevents unnecessary disruption in areas that may not need it.

As the turfgrass begins to green-up and seed germinates, provide adequate fertilizer nutrients for turfgrass growth. Granular fertilizer sources can be used, however, make careful applications to prevent damage to tender turfgrass. Frequent foliar nitrogen applications also can help provide more rapid recovery. Supplying 1/10 to 1/8 lb. of actual nitrogen per 1000 sq. ft. on a 7 to 10 day interval should be adequate. Readily available nitrogen sources such as urea and ammonium sulfate provide the most rapid growth response.

In addition to promoting turfgrass recovery, monitor for diseases. With young seedlings and tender turfgrass plants, disease susceptibility will be high. Keep a close eye out. While the break in the weather is nice, we all expect higher temperatures to return for a few

more days before the end of the summer. One other problem to consider is insect damage. With adequate soil moisture and recovering turfgrass, animals will begin digging in search of grubs. Perhaps, some of the areas of turf loss chalked up to drought stress may have been caused by grub activity. Scout the golf course for insect activity. Treatments with a thatch penetrating insecticide will be needed if grub activity is encountered.

The 2002 growing season has been a trying one. Fortunately, shorter days and cooler temperatures will allow for turfgrass recovery in a short period of time. Be patient, evaluate the existing turf, and take the necessary measures to provide recovery and improvement to the golf course.

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