

# Connecticut Clippings

Volume 37, No. 3

July, 2003

## SCHUMANN LEAVING FOR MILWAUKEE

At the UMASS Field Day, June 18, 2003 an announcement was made by Nancy Garrabants, Director of Stockbridge School, that Gail Schumann would be moving to Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Her husband, Michael Switzenbaum, accepted the position of Department Head of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Marquette University.

Many turf professionals throughout New England are concerned. The wet weather if coupled with some high temperatures could result in a busy disease cycle for this season. Rest assured, your concerns have been addressed. All of the details are not available yet, but here is what we have.

The UMASS Turf Diagnostic Lab will be open until August 8, 2003.

Please call 413/545-3413 before sending samples. If Gail should be unavailable, alternative information will be left on a phone message, and the UMASS web site, [http://www.umasssturf.org/services/turf\\_diagnostics/diseases.html](http://www.umasssturf.org/services/turf_diagnostics/diseases.html)

Once Gail has moved to Milwaukee a diagnostic lab will be set up for two years. Disease updates will continue to be written, and the fungicide chart will be kept up to date. Gail will also be pleased to respond to phone and email questions. [Schumann@pltpath.umass.edu](mailto:Schumann@pltpath.umass.edu)

New contact information will be available as soon as it is established. Gail stated that she will greatly miss working with turf managers throughout New England, and that she is glad that there is an opportunity to stay in touch for awhile. She hopes to have her new lab in Milwaukee open soon after Labor Day.

Until August 8, send samples to: Dr. Gail Schumann, Dept. of Microbiology, 209E Fernald Hall, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003-9320. Please see UMASS web site for specific instructions for mailing samples.

*Editors note: Samples may also be sent to: Dr. Nathaniel Mitkowski, Department of Plant Sciences, University of Rhode Island, 9 East Alumni Ave., Ste 7, Kingston, RI 02881. Phone 401/874-5996, Fax 401/874-2494. Email [mitkowski@uri.edu](mailto:mitkowski@uri.edu)*

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Jud W. Smith, President

# The President's Message

## When It Rains . . . IT POURS!!

The headline in the New Haven Register reads, "First Day of Summer will be under a flood watch." As of June 22nd, there were only five dry days... in the WHOLE MONTH!! May have had three four-day monsoons. All in all, only 17 of the last 51 days had been rain-free. New Haven

County had over 10 inches of rain for the month of June alone. There was a time in mid May that the weather pattern was almost comical. We'd joke about the rain, say it wasn't going to last, strap on the rain gear, get out there and do what we do.

As rainy days passed, a sunny day or at least half a sunny day would come along and then... you guessed it... more rain. Mid May turned into mid June, the ground is way past saturation, grass is out of control and off limits to mechanized turf equipment. The crew is walking around in circles, talking to themselves and not using full sentences - either! Enough of the gray, downright cold, rainy days. It's getting hard to motivate the staff, the dogs and even myself.

The weather has definitely taken its toll on the number of rounds played, turf conditions, and ones mental outlook. In the same aforementioned article in the Register, Dr. Ruben, Director of Psychiatric Emergency Services, at the Hospital of Saint Raphael, stated that "two weeks of gray, blah days really brings people's moods down." Disappointment has descended into gloom and depression as rain permeates weekend after weekend. "Most people want to go outside to bike, run, mow the lawn, paint, garden, or play golf. A lot has been put on hold," Ruben said. Okay, so it isn't just me. I'm tired of cutting water. It's tough to fire up the crew to weedwack a fairway. My

office smells like a wet dog and the Pro Shop wants to know if we're, or rather when we're letting carts out!!! I need to stay away from sharp objects and rope.

Generally, during May and June, one out of three days has rain. Since May 1st through June 20th (the last 51 days) the average frequency has doubled to participation every 1½ days... That equates to nine or ten partially wet weekends!! Maybe its time to think about the ark??

Enough of this... lets look at the bright side. We've hardly had to water, you've worn a sweatshirt deep into June, and think of all the budgeted money you've saved on water and electricity!!! There is always another way to look at something to change our perspective or state of mind. Besides, this is sunny southern New England...the weather is always changing...soon we will be wishing for cool summer rain!!! Or will we??

Whatever it is that might be hitting heavy on your mind remember, "This too shall pass" (thanks John Gallagher, RBCC). It's almost time to think about aerifying, overseeding and leaf removal... I said almost! Labor Day is just around the corner and there goes the summer help!! So relax, enjoy the moment... take in a ball game, lobster dinner or a sunset sail. Just bring a rainsuit and a sweatshirt because you never know...!

Peace,  
Jud

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The Clippings is open to all commentary. Please send your comments to:  
Bob Chalifour, Newsletter Editor

Twenty-five years ago....

## Winter Damage Severe Throughout New England

*USGA Green Section notes widespread injury!*

Although it is of little comfort, it is interesting to learn that the severe winter injury to turf, especially greens is not confined to Connecticut. Bill Brewer, Green Section agronomist, notes that severe damage has been observed from central New Jersey northward through Massachusetts. Such severe injury is atypical for areas such as Westchester County, NY and southern and central Connecticut. Most often the species most severely affected has been poa annua. In many cases poorly drained areas, low pockets, and compacted traffic areas where poa predominates were totally destroyed.

Obviously, by this time corrective

measures have been taken by most superintendents. Proper procedures include aerating or spiking, overseeding, and topdressing. Interestingly enough, Bill points out that those supers who addressed the problem quite early have seen promising results. This is surprising in that soil temperatures have been slow to rise. It seems that even though top growth had remained slow, seed germination was progressing.

Bill suggests several possibilities for long range solutions. Greens that are continuously problem areas should be rebuilt when possible. Less dramatic solutions include recontouring of green surfaces for improved surface drainage, sub-surface drainage, aeration, and topdressing. Undoubtedly, topdressing can be one of the most beneficial programs to follow. Frequent light applications throughout the growing season will help greatly in improving the growing medium resulting in a more healthy plant, one which may better survive these difficult New England Winters.

Steve Cadenelli

## How Can I Improve My Public Relations?

Look into yourself.

Try to feel good about yourself, not in a conceited way, but in a positive way. If you don't feel good about yourself, why should you expect others to feel good about you.

Some days we just feel good, no matter what goes wrong, while other days we may not feel so good even when things are going right. Try,

*Continued on page 4...*



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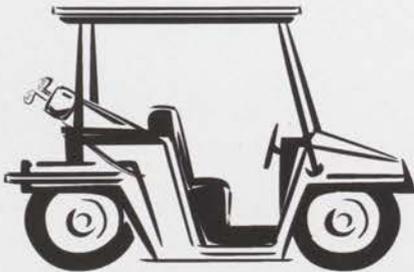
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Twenty-five years ago continued....

we must not stop trying to feel good inside ourselves.

On those days that we are glowing with confidence, the people around us will feel relaxed and be willing to share their thoughts with us. Even a friendly glance will do wonders for YOUR public relations, or let's say people relations, because putting on a false face for the right people may work sometimes, but feeling good about yourself works all the time, for all the people.

Fred Bachand



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## CAGCS 2003 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**August 5	<b>Westwoods Golf Course</b> ABCD Mixer, Best Ball of Four & Hotball - 80% hdcp Committee will make foursomes.	Kevin D'Amico,CGCS Superintendent
September 6	<b>Lake Compounce</b> <i>CAGCS Family Day</i>	
**September 16	<b>Skungamaug River Golf Club</b> <i>Superintendent/Assistant Championship</i> Best ball of Twosome - 90% hdcp President's Cup/McLaughlin Trophy	John Motycka Superintendent
October 14	<b>Wampanoag Country Club</b> <i>S &amp; R Tournament</i> Scramble	Greg Stent Superintendent
October 20	<b>Ellington Ridge Country Club</b> <i>New England Team Championship</i>	David E. Vibber Superintendent
November 5	<b>Fenwick Golf Club</b> <i>Annual Meeting</i> 9 hole Scramble ABCD	Kimberly Heyl Superintendent
December 6	<b>Farmingbury Hills Country Club</b> <i>CAGCS Christmas Party</i>	Wayne Urban Superintendent

\*\* Qualifiers for Met Team Championship. The combined rounds of the two tournaments will be used.

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## Congratulations

Lisa & Peter Grace on the birth of their son John William born May 19th.

Monique & Mike Mooney on the birth of their daughter Jillian Virginia born on March 25th and weighting in at 6lbs 9ozs.

Wendy & Jesse Anderson, III on the birth of their daughter Faith born on June 20th and weighed in at 7lbs 15ozs.

Andrea & Sean Moran on the birth of their son Padric Moran born on July 17th weighing in at 8lbs 5ozs

## Condolences

Joe Stahl on the passing of his mother Evelyn Marie Stahl.

## University of Massachusetts Winter School for Turf Managers 2004

The University of Massachusetts Winter School for Turf Managers is now accepting applications for

the 2004 session. This seven-week course provides students with the concepts essential to professional maintenance of high quality turf. Winter School 2004 classes will run from January 5 through February 20, 2004. The deadline for application is September 15, 2003.

UMass Winter School for Turf Managers is intended especially for professionals who want to expand their skills and advance in their career, but cannot schedule a two or four year program. Winter School is most appropriate for men and women associated with the management of golf courses, athletic fields, parks, industrial grounds, municipal and private grounds, fine lawns, and other fine quality turf situations. Winter School classes are taught by University of Massachusetts faculty and staff as well as renowned turf industry professionals.

Space is limited, and a high school diploma is required. 21 CEUs (Continuing Education Units) are available upon successful completion of the course. These CEUs can be applied towards GCSAA renewal of certification. In addition, this course has been approved for pesticide applicator contact hours in the New England states. Most other states accept this approval towards their own applicator licensing and certification programs.

For a brochure describing the UMass Winter School for Turf Managers, and for an application, contact:

Winter School for Turf Managers  
Division of Continuing Education  
University of Massachusetts  
Box 31650  
Amherst, MA 01003-1650  
tel (413) 545-2484  
goodchild@contined.umass.edu

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The 2003-2004 Professional Management Guide for Insects, Diseases and Weeds of Trees and Shrubs in New England is now available. This 130 page guide is revised every two years by the University of Massachusetts Extension's Landscape, Nursery and Urban Forestry Program to provide arborists, tree wardens, and Green Industry professionals with current information on the materials and products available to manage pests of woody plants in New England.

We provide comprehensive information on insect and mite pests including monitoring checklists, growing degree day calendars, plant phenology data, insect and mite pests listed by host plant and type of injury, landscape and nursery insecticides and miticides, trade and common names of insecticides, and management of insects and mites.

The following information can be found in the disease section: disease management, landscape and nursery fungicides, trade and common names of fungicides, seedling root and crown rot management, powdery mildew management, and management of Gymnosporangium rusts on woody plants.

The weed section offers information on managing weeds in the landscape and nursery, landscape and nursery herbicides, trade and common names of herbicides, and

herbicides for specific weed species in nurseries and landscapes.

A listing of resources for Green Industry professionals includes diagnostic services, soil and plant tissue testing, pesticide registration information, UMass Extension contacts, poison control information and how to comply with the Massachusetts Public Drinking Water Supply Protection Regulations.

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For \$40 (plus \$5 shipping), you can receive the entire UMass Extension Management Guide for Woody Ornamentals, which includes the above mentioned Guide, Strategies for Plant Health Management of Woody Ornamentals, and the inscribed 3-ring binder to hold them.

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**Rodden Wins Annual Tennis Tournament**

Tom Rodden golf course superintendent at Glastonbury Hills CC captured the 27th annual men's tournament at the Manchester Rac-

quet Club. The hard hitting Rodden played consistent tennis winning 6-2 and 7-6. The later tie-breaker was 9-7 for a straight-set win over Ed Gillis.

There were 3 flights with 5 players in each flight. Rodden went undefeated in his flight before going on to win his first club championship. Two former champions were losers. Eric Nova won five titles in 93,97,98,99, and 2002. Joe Donovan was No.1 in 2000.

An impressive win. Congratulations Tom.

**Miscellaneous**

Golf Course News to cease publishing with the July 03 issue. An on-line publication will be available at [www.golfcoursenews.com](http://www.golfcoursenews.com)

Web Site Provides West Nile Virus Information - [www.WestNileVirusFacts.org](http://www.WestNileVirusFacts.org), a comprehensive site about the virus and mosquitos.

The Links At Barn Island which was to be developed by Stahis Manoussos of Wethersfield has been sold to the Nature Conservancy and the state Department of Environmental Protection. The 144 acres of land will be added to the Barn Island Management Area. The preserve will be increased by 20% giving it 1,104 contiguous acres of protected land.

CAGCS Elections are coming up in November. If anyone wishes to run for a board position, or serve on a committee, please contact Jud Smith, President CAGCS @ 203/799-0286 Ext. # 1

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**May 6, 2003 Meeting Results**  
**Indian Hill Country Club**  
**Two Man Shamble**

**GROSS:**

1<sup>st</sup> - 67 - Ward Weischet,  
 Oronoque CC  
 Mike Dukette, Lesco

**NET:**

1<sup>st</sup> - 67 - John Fleming,  
 Water Specialists, LLC  
 Tom Watroba, Suffield CC

2<sup>nd</sup> - 67- Joe Trosky,  
 Winfield Nursery, Inc.  
 Steve Roberts,  
 Stephen A. Roberts-Landscape

3<sup>rd</sup> - 69 - Keith Angilly,  
 Mill River CC  
 Matt Howland,  
 Shawnmark Industries, Inc.

4<sup>th</sup> - 70 - Mark Osborn,  
 Steven Willand Inc.  
 Glen Dube,  
 Oak Hills Park GC

5<sup>th</sup> - 71 - Peter Pierson,  
 Pequabuck CC  
 Heather Garvin,  
 Canton Public GC

**Closest to Line: #1 - Suzy Motycka,**  
 Skungamaug River CC

**Closest to Pin: #5 - Keith Angilly, 6' 5"**  
 #11 - Ward Weischet,  
 CGCS, 5' 2"

**Long Drive: #7 - Joe Trosky**  
**Kickers:** Joe Malay,  
 Hopbrook GC  
 Bob Goglia,  
 Syngenta

**Skins: #9 - eagle - Dennis Petruzzelli,**  
 Metro Turf Specialists  
 #10 - Ward Weischet, CGCS  
 #11 - Ward Weischet, CGCS

**May 27, 2003 Meeting Results**  
**Race Brook Country Club**  
**Low Gross/Low Net Blind Partners**

**Gross:**

1<sup>st</sup> - 172 - Tom DeVaux,  
 Hunter Memorial GC  
 Kevin D'Amico, CGCS,  
 Westwoods CC

2<sup>nd</sup> - 179 - Brian Pope,  
 Turf Products Corp.  
 Mark Osborn,  
 Steve Willand Co.

3<sup>rd</sup> - 181 - Wayne Urban,  
 Farmingbury Hills CC  
 Bob York,  
 BASF

**Net:**

1<sup>st</sup> - 146 - Sean Moran, SODCO  
 Joe Stahl III, Simplot Partners

2<sup>nd</sup> - 146 - Chris Mauro, Highfield CC  
 Skip Deubel, Tuckahoe Turf

3<sup>rd</sup> - 148 - Glen Dube, Oak Hills Park CC  
 Paul Sabino, The Farms CC

4<sup>th</sup> - 148 - Eric DeStefano, Twin Hills CC  
 Tom Pepe, Race Brook CC

5<sup>th</sup> - 148 - Mike Cook  
 Lindsey Munger,  
 Candlewood Valley CC

**Closest to Line: #1 - Dennis Houle**

**Long Drive: #13 - Andy Drohen**

**Closest to Pin: # 2 - Scott Walker,**  
 Green Woods CC, 1'5"  
 #9 - Don Beck,  
 Fisher's Island Club, 8' 10"  
 #11 - Kevin D'Amico,  
 CGCS, 11'  
 #12- Larry Dodge,  
 Oak Lane CC, 7' 6"  
 #5B - Mike Conroy,  
 Lesco, 6' 8"

**Long Putt: #4 - John Butenko,**  
 R.F. Morse & Sons, 25' 2"

#16 - Bob Welch,  
 Rock Ridge CC, 14' 11"

**Kickers:**

John Garcia, The Patterson Club/John  
 Motycka, Skungamaug River CC

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Chris Mikita, Oak Lane CC/Mark Fuller, CGCS, The Connecticut GC

**Skins:** John Gallagher, III, Race Brook CC  
Peter Bly, Brooklawn CC  
Mike McDermott, Twin Hills CC

**June 23, '03 Meeting Results  
Farmington Country Club  
Low Gross/Low Net by Flight**

**Flight A:**

1st Gross - 71 - Andy Drohen,  
Pursell Technologies

**NET:**

1<sup>st</sup> - 66 - John Fleming, Water Specialists, LLC  
2<sup>nd</sup> - 67 - Jud Smith, Orange Hills CC  
3<sup>rd</sup> - 68 - Kevin Collins, Tower Ridge CC  
4<sup>th</sup> - 70 - Mark Chant, Aspetuck Valley CC  
5<sup>th</sup> - 71 - Peter Pierson, Pequabuck GC

**Flight B:**

1st Gross - 76 - Chris Mauro, Highfield CC

**NET:**

1<sup>st</sup> - 66 - Gary Santorso, Farmington CC  
2<sup>nd</sup> - 66 - Todd Olovson, Sleeping Giant CC  
3<sup>rd</sup> - 67 - Dennis Houle, Redding CC  
4<sup>th</sup> - 69 - John Garcia, Patterson CC  
5<sup>th</sup> - 69 - Ken Modzelesky, Oakridge CC

**Flight C:**

1<sup>st</sup> Gross-90 - Paul Sabino, The Farms CC

**NET:**

1<sup>st</sup> - 71 - Bob Goglia, Syngenta  
2<sup>nd</sup> - 72 - Shawn Donovan, Turf Products  
3<sup>rd</sup> - 74 - Peter Grace, Smith Richardson GC  
4<sup>th</sup> - 76 - Bruce Morse, Norwich GC  
5<sup>th</sup> - 77 - Chris Alonzi, Woodbridge CC

**Flight D:**

1<sup>st</sup> Gross - 93 - Dan Rackliffe,  
Longshore Club Park

**NET:**

1<sup>st</sup> - 71 - Phil Neaton, Black Hall Club  
2<sup>nd</sup> - 73 - John Butenko,  
R.F. Morse & Sons  
3<sup>rd</sup> - 73 - Eric Holm, Hop Meadow CC  
4<sup>th</sup> - 74 - Alex Adaskaveg, Rockledge CC  
5<sup>th</sup> - 76 - Bob Chalifour, Holliston Sand

**Long Drive: #14 - Andy Drohen,**  
Pursell Technologies

**Closest to Pin: # 4 - Dan St. Laurent 7' 9"**  
**#12 - Jud Smith 6",**  
Orange Hills CC

**Longest Putt: #5 - John Callahan 12',**  
The Cardinals  
**#9 - John Fleming 15',**  
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**Closest to Line: #6 - Bruce Morse,**  
Norwich GC

**Skins: #11 - Larry Dodge, Oak Lane CC**  
**# 16 - Dean Carrigan, Highfield CC**

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## Geese May Be Hunted

### New Law Passed In June

The state has passed a law allowing towns, homeowners and others to kill geese by hunting them out of season or rounding them up for slaughter. Border collies and their handlers may be out of a job.

The states 57,000 non-migratory Canada geese have been multiplying for years. An average resident goose may raise 60 or more goslings in her 20-year life span. The Department of Environmental Protection along with several towns has pushed the legislature to do something about it.

A new law passed in June will allow the killing of geese if it can be shown to the DEP that other tactics such as harassing the flocks has not worked. The law takes effect in October, but probably won't be implemented until next spring to allow migratory geese to leave.

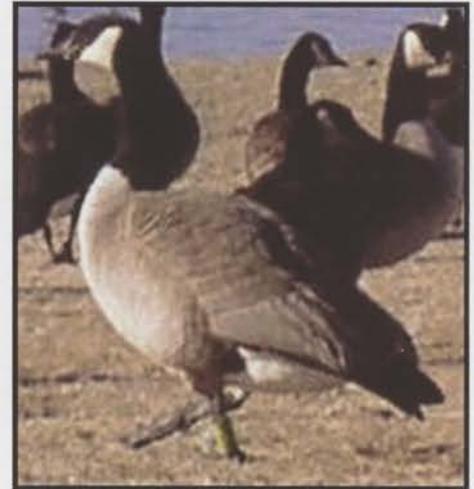
The birds are protected under the Federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act, and killing them requires a federal permit. But nationally, the 3.5 million non-migratory Canada geese have proven such a nuisance that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has proposed turning over regulatory responsibility to the states.

Until the federal rule change takes effect, towns and others will need a federal permit to kill the geese. The new Connecticut law will allow people to apply for such a permit.

Resident geese settled in Connecticut in the 1920s, drawn to a game farm in Litchfield, where hunters offered them food. Others came in the 1950s brought by state wildlife managers and hunting groups. They found a mild climate and plenty of grass.

Golf course fairways with tender shoots of grass have been a popular spot for flocks to congregate. Public parks with ponds and expansive

grass areas are also a favorite place to dine.



Wanted - Dead

Not all will be permitted to hunt, but perhaps the ones that are, will be able to reduce the flocks to a tolerable level.

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## Possible Eye Damage From The Sun

Dave Comee GCS, The Winchendon Club, Gardner, MA

Something happened to me recently that I think everyone in this business of ours should be aware of. Without any prior warning, one morning I awoke with a sore right eye. It was very red and very inflamed. I am 52 years old and do not wear glasses.

Three hours later, the optometrist informed me that I had a condition known as "Pinguicula". Not only did I not know what it meant, I had never heard the word. Pinguicula is a "non-malignant, slow growing proliferation of conjunctival connective tissue in the eye". In layman's terms I have a callus growing in my eye. Lucky me, I have it in both eyes.

### Your Health

Pinguicula affects the sclera (white

of the eye) and the conjunctiva. They appear as small, raised, thickenings of the conjunctiva, almost like a wart. They almost always appear on the nose side of the iris. This condition can exist for some time without any knowledge of the problem until they become irritated and inflamed. Then it feels like Hampton Beach is in your eye and it won't come out.

If not taken care of they may develop into a "Pterygium" (a similar but more aggressive type of affliction). They may have blood vessels associated with them and could grow into the iris and therefore affect your vision.. Pterygium stretch and distort the cornea and cause astigmatism.

According to my doctor, and what I have found on the net, the cause is unknown. They are however more frequently found in people who work outdoors. The frequent and long-term exposure to wind, dust, pollen and ultra violet light seems to increase the chance of occurrence. The



Pinguicula

simplest way to protect yourself is to have an eye exam and be diligent about wearing a quality pair of sunglasses with UV protection.

I will have to live with this problem for the rest of my life. Be smart, schedule an eye exam, and do what you can to prevent this from happening to you.

*Excerpted from The Newsletter, a publication of The Golf Course Superintendents of New England.*

*Editors note of sites to check - stlukeseye.com, personalmd.com*

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