



THE NEWSLETTER

October 2001

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.

Gary Luccini: Whether “Grizzly” or “Teddy”, “The Bear” was appreciated by everyone

He had this persona, one that bordered on indestructibility. His mantra? “The Bear” will never go down. Unfortunately, the message never got through to that one, great scorekeeper in the sky. Gary Luccini left our trap-edging, fairway-mowing, green-manicuring world and his own, compelling world of fierce loyalty to friends and everlasting love of family a short time ago.

Gary was an icon of his profession. The venerable golf course superintendent at Franklin Country Club, he built the reputation as a course-conditioning wizard. “Gary had the supreme green thumb,” longtime friend and colleague Dick Zepp of Cyprian Keyes commented. “He was as good as they come. He wasn’t a straight-A student, working out of a book. But for hands-on stuff, he was on par with the best in the field.”

True. To one and all Gary was always The Bear, a bear with two, distinct personalities. On the outside he was a grizzly ... gruff and domineering. On the inside, though, he was a teddy bear ... fun-loving and extremely loyal. In the end, it was that kinder, gentler side which labels Gary one of the unforgettable members of the superintendents’ fraternity.

It seems that everyone has a story about The Bear. Zepp’s favorite concerned a typical trek to a tournament, with heavy-weight Gary behind the wheel of a pickup and fellow beefcakes Ken Mooradian and Zepp handling the navigation chores.

“We were going somewhere, I forget now,” Zepp recalled. “But it put us on Route 495. Just as we went by the Route 117 exit, all three of us looked at one

“He knew who the most important people in the world were – his family and friends.”

Brian King
N.S. Hydroseeding

another with that faraway gaze as the Hebert Candy Mansion passed out of view. Next thing we knew, we were on 495 going the other way. You can finish the story yourself. Anyway, we went through 10 bucks of chocolates before we even got to the tournament we were playing. That was Gary. Eating was a pastime he played to the hilt. Uh, Ken and I weren’t bad at it, either.”

Gary’s serious side impressed those close to The Bear. “Gary and I always enjoyed our quiet moments together,” Zepp continued. “That’s when the golf industry took a backseat to conversation about our families. He was a strong family man. They came first with him. His wife, Kathy, was his soul mate. His sons, Brian and Michael, were his pride and joy. They formed what I call life’s winning team.”

Wellesley’s Dave Barber is an original Luccini booster. Gary and Dave started in the profession together as UMass-Stockbridge students. “We really hit it off,” Dave said. “I don’t know if there is a bad word you could say about Gary. He was a

good friend, very loyal. He’d back you to the wall. At home, he was a good father, a loving husband. At Franklin, he did the job extremely well. He kept that place going. I’m shook up over this (passing).”

Mooradian’s memories of Gary fill up and spill over with high frequency. Theirs was a buddy-buddy relationship. Mooradian, now a salesman for Varney Bros., worked almost side by side with Luccini since he was the 30-year superintendent at Hopedale Country Club, only 10 miles down the road from Franklin. Over the years they became inseparable.

“The Bear and I were the perfect team,” Mooradian chimed in, noting that he and Gary had won their first three matches in the superintendents’ four-ball tournament this year. “We were real close, like brothers. When I learned that he had taken a turn for the worse after all those operations (brain surgery), I couldn’t believe it. He was a robust guy. This is a tragedy beyond belief.”

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THE NEWSLETTER

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Ken remembered the good times on the road with his buddy. "I'm telling you, Gary knew every restaurant there was," he quipped. "He could always find some place that was good. I think eating was always on his mind. Hmm. Mine too. Often, sitting down to eat was the highlight of our day."

Mooradian went on to play the rest of the four-ball tournament with Brian Luccini. He couldn't help but think Gary, somehow, would be there, making like the grizzly he thought depicted his personality for an occasion like that.

"I can picture Gary in a golf cart, yelling at me for some silly thing," Ken said. "He was always like that, putting on an air when inside he was curled up like a little lamb. Whatever, I knew he'd be smiling if he knew I was playing with Brian. In fact, I think he did see us. What a guy."

Another close friend, Brian King, took Gary's death very hard.

"You'd have to know the kind of relationship we had," King offered as he recalled their first meeting, Brian as head of North Shore Hydroseeding and Gary as Franklin superintendent seeking its services. "That first day was something else. My foreman and I went down there with a loaded tank and Gary sat in a golf cart, watching us from about 20 feet away. He was all over us on how we did the job. He had his own specs for the way we were working."

"But then around noontime he disappears, comes back with a tray full of food and drinks and back into his position watching us again. At the end of the day he comes back with a bottle of home-made wine for the both of us. That was the beginning of a good account and a lasting friendship. He'd send for us three or four times a year."

King insists that Gary showed him the way down the road of life. "I could see that Gary was a different type of person and friend," Brian remarked. "His love of family and friends was so genuine, so sincere. When I heard of his death I just sat there for a good half-hour. I couldn't move, couldn't speak. There are about 10 people on a list I've made, people that have made a difference in my life. Gary's on that list. He knew who the most important people in the world were – his family and friends. He's what I call one of the great figures of our time."

One of Gary's little-known traits and area of accomplishment was his ability to impart his knowledge and expertise on others. A beneficiary of that side of Gary's hidden command of treasures was present Hopedale superintendent Donny D'Errico.

"Gary's biggest pride over the years hasn't been the way he has turned Franklin into a lush playing ground for his members, it's the successful placement of his assistants into the business," Donny told. "He wanted you to know everything and everyone. I really benefited from my time with him. Each time I face a problem, I get the same answer from my inside . . . 'what would Gary do in this situation?' And what he'd do was always the definitive solution."

D'Errico tells of a three-day trip to the Masters Tournament with his beloved mentor.

"To my surprise at least a dozen people in Augusta knew Gary as The Bear," Donny laughed. "From waitresses to parking attendants to will-call officials and overweight patrons at the egg salad stand."

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CALENDAR . . .

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| Nov. 5 | GCSANE Monthly Meeting
Annual Nine-Hole Meeting
Amherst G.C.
Amherst, Mass.
Supt. - Carl Teschke |
| Nov. 13 | GCSAA Seminar
<i>Fundamentals of Turfgrass Management II</i>
The International
Bolton, Mass. |
| Nov. 14 | GCSAA Seminar
<i>Strategic Planning for Golf Course Operations</i>
The International
Bolton, Mass. |
| Dec. 3 | GCSANE Monthly Meeting
Pleasant Valley C.C.
Sutton, Mass.
Supt. - Chris Tufts |
| Dec. 16 | GCSANE Holiday Gala
Wellesley C.C.
Host - David Barber, CGCS |
| January 14 | GCSANE Annual Meeting
Woodland G.C.
Auburndale, Mass.
Supt. - Dave Mucciarone |
| Feb. 3-10, 2002 | GCSAA 73rd International Golf Course Conference & Show
Orlando, Fla. |
| March 5-7 2002 | New England Regional Turfgrass Conference & Show
Providence, R.I. |

The Super Speaks Out

This month's question: How much information do you get from using the Internet, and do you see this tool expanding in the future?

Bryan Barrington, Red Tail Golf Club:

"I'm really into taking advantage of the Internet because of the circumstances at my club. We're currently under construction and won't open our first nine holes until next spring. This means I've had a lot of opportunity to scan the Internet for a wide range of information plus the other offerings it presents.

"One of the big helping hands I get from the Internet is that I get to know what other people (superintendents) are doing in the case of certain projects or setting up maintenance logistics for the time when we get into business. There's a lot to be learned just by feeding off the experience of others.

"We just got finished with the last of our seedlings. Before that I was able to use the Internet as a guide for the type of seed that would be more compatible with our area through the updates that are presented on the information network.

"I found that there's a special program on both seed and fertilizer, giving me a chance to see what my selected seed and fertilizers do after actual application.

"Another interesting 'find' for me was a separate section on diseases researched by the University of Maryland. One particular problem was gray leaf spot. The Internet presentation showed a history of the disease, including the track it has taken in spreading from one section of the country to the other. It also included the time of year and weather conditions

that promote the infestation of gray leaf spot. Because I've heard that this could become a serious problem in our area, the gray leaf spot stuff was timely.

"All of this is a plus for superintendents. It almost gives us a chance to prepare for certain diseases, based on the conditions under which they seem to thrive. That means we're getting into preventive measures, too. Of course, avoiding a disease is the best treatment of all.

THE SUPER SPEAKS

"I also ran into another Internet offering on irrigation, a sort of nuts and bolts read on what kind of heads are most effective and proper location of them. This would be a big benefit to those that are either installing automatic irrigation or updating present systems.

"Overall, the Internet has helped me lean on a more direct approach of getting all my maintenance practices together than I would if depending on trade magazines and other visual aids. With the Internet I get to pinpoint what I'm searching for and go from there. I use a little personal computer for all of this, one that's user-friendly and easy to learn. In fact, I picked it up in no time at all. I recommend it and see it improving in the future."

Mike Fontaine, Northfield Golf Club:

"The main thrust of my computer use for the job is the e-mail I put into and get from my operation. Mostly, the e-mail feature is used for the exchange of problems, solutions, conditioning ideas, and other job-related projects with my working friends in the Berkshires.

"This is a big plus, because for the most part we're all working under the same weather conditions, many with similar soil makeup and reaction to fertilizers and other growth inducing materials. This way it virtually prevents a hit-or-miss mentality when it comes to major decisions.

"I also use the Internet as a golf list for equipment and material. The list doesn't include a rate sheet but it does offer information where I can contact a representative of the company that produces anything I may be interested in. This narrows the possibilities for me and comes out giving me more time to do or take part in other projects.

"Northfield is owned and operated by the Northfield Mt. Hermon School. The school is on a computer system, so I hook into it as a matter of keeping data on payroll, hours, and other items related to cost.

"I'm a stickler for asking questions, so the Internet is just the place for me to present questions about all maintenance-related subjects. I like to see how methods used by others stack up with mine. Most of the time, I stick with my own theory. However, I'm not that confident to believe that everything I do in a critical situation is the right thing to do. Somewhere the most effective answer may be looking at me through my computer.

"We have a unique situation here. Northfield is a nine-hole course and is overseen by a committee of members, most of them tied in with the school. As far as I know, I have no immediate boss or supervisor. Usually there's a collection of authority from the membership that makes sure everything's working right. It has worked because I've been here 12 years.

"I like dipping into the Internet because there are always some new or revolutionary aids to conditioning out there. I'm always experimenting along those lines and sometimes I get a handle on a tricky challenge by running through other people's ideas.

"I can see the Internet expanding and going in a lot of new and different directions in the future. I'd like to get to the point where I can simplify my operation through research and practice on the Internet. Oh, I also use the computer a lot in the winter when the course is closed. Funny, there are things that pop up on the screen that will be helpful when I'm ready to put things back together in the spring.

"That's the real impact of the Internet on the superintendent's maintenance practice. It's a helping hand, not a cure-all. But if it gets you on the right track, it's worth the time and money we put into using it."

GERRY FINN

"Somewhere the most effective answer may be looking at me through my computer"

**Mike Fontaine
Northfield G.C.**

Massachusetts Pesticide Bureau schedules low-cost collection program for November

The Massachusetts Pesticide Bureau will conduct its Fourth Annual Waste Pesticide Collection Program in November. The annual collection program is a legal, low cost opportunity for pesticide users to dispose of unused, unwanted, banned, and cancelled pesticides. Licensed and certified pesticide applicators, farmers, state agencies, and municipal agencies are eligible to participate. Since 1998, the Pesticide Bureau has collected over 80,000 lbs. of waste pesticides at 17 locations.

As in past years, Safety-Kleen will be the licensed hazardous waste hauler collecting the waste pesticides. The collection will occur at Massachusetts Highway Department facilities in the following locations. "Pesticide Bureau Event" signs will be posted outside the locations.

November 13 - Bridgewater. Mass. Highway Depot (Intersection of Rtes. 24 & 104)

November 14 - Waltham. UMass Extension Ctr. (240 Beaver St., Waltham)

November 15 - Millbury. Mass. Highway Maintenance Facility (On Rte. 146 South. 1.7 miles South of Rte. 20 across from John Deere dealer)

November 16 - Northampton. Mass. Highway Facilities (Rte. 9, Locust St. Take I-91 to Exit 18. Turn left at the bottom of

the ramp to Route 5N. At the first set of lights turn left on to Rte. 9 West for 1.5 miles. Site is on the right after the City of Northampton facility.)

November 19 - Topsfield. Topsfield Fairgrounds (Route 1)

Applicators must pre-register with Safety-Kleen to participate. The pre-registration form is available on the Pesticide Collection Program web site at <http://www.massdfa.org/pesticides/waste.htm>. Or, call the Pesticide Bureau at 617-626-1773.

With your pre-registration, Safety-Kleen will assign you a time to appear at the collection site and tell you how much you will be charged. The cost for disposal will be \$9 per gallon and \$1.35 per pound. Please pay on the day of the collection event using a cashier's check.

Applicators are responsible for making sure that their pesticides are packaged correctly for transportation. For more information on the safe packaging and transportation of pesticides, go to the Pesticide Collection Program web site at <http://www.massdfa.org/pesticides/waste.htm>.

GCSANE four-ball tournament renamed to honor Gary Luccini

At the September board meeting of GCSANE, the directors voted to name our Four-Ball Tournament the Gary Luccini Memorial Four-Ball Tournament.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

The tournament was initiated this year and is in honor of our longtime friend and colleague from Franklin Country Club who passed away in September.

The joint meeting with the Cape Cod Turf Managers Association in October had

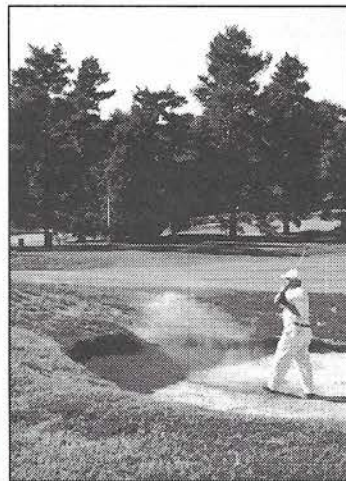
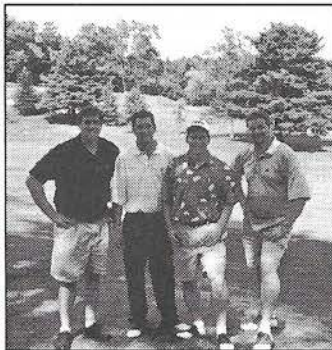
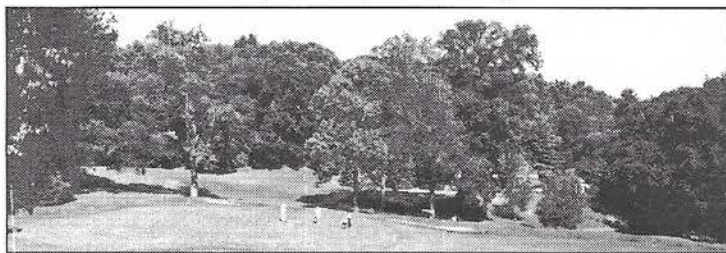
a large turnout. Superintendent Steve Carr had the course in excellent condition. Pocasset Country Club was a gracious host for this event.

Lastly, please join me in congratulating Mike Reilly of the Dedham Country & Polo Club on being named the new president of the Massachusetts Golf Association.

Sincerely,
Bob Ruzala
President, GCSANE

A selection of views from this year's GCSANE Superintendent-Club Official Tournament

September 10, 2001
at Winchester (Mass.) Country Club



GCSAA's anniversary celebration reconsidered, and notes about our association's future plans

by Tim O'Neill, CGCS,
GCSAA Board of Directors

In my term on the GCSAA Board of Directors – I can't believe I've almost completed my second full season – probably the most unfortunate course of events I've had to report is the cancellation of GCSAA's 75th Anniversary Celebration scheduled for September 13 & 14 at our headquarters in Lawrence, Kan. As chairman of the 75th Anniversary Resource Group, I saw, firsthand, the extensive planning that had gone on for many months preceding the September dedication, golf tournament, and gala dinner. All three events were part of a spectacular two-day celebration planned in appreciation of our profession and the association.

In light of the tragic events September 11, the "show" understandably could not go on.

Although it's impossible to reschedule an event of this magnitude, GCSAA is hoping to fold the celebration into a grander-than-usual finale to the Orlando Conference & Show in February. The board and staff are currently brainstorming options.

Also affected by the terrorist attacks were numerous committee meetings and the Chapter Delegates Meeting. Although the delegates meeting wasn't canceled, it has been rescheduled for December 1 & 2. As always, in addition to reports and discussions, this annual meeting offers chapter delegates the opportunity to hear from the slate of candidates running for the GCSAA Board of Directors. At this year's meeting, I will be a candidate for the office of Secretary/Treasurer. I appreciate the opportunity to be considered and am looking forward to the challenge.

PDI Planning Still Goes On

On other fronts, it's pretty much business as usual. Working with other directors and GCSAA staff as Membership chairman, I've become immersed in the planning and implementation of PDI. In particular, the Membership Committee's focus this past season has been to perfect the long-talked-about Code of Standards

that will define and regulate qualifications for Class A status. This document will include:

- Eligibility requirements for Class A.
- Application & reclassification processes.
- Renewal and reentry requirements.
- Point description and values for both education and service that are required for members to achieve – and then retain – Class A status.
- An appeal process for members who wish to inquire about various membership rulings.

The review process for the Code of Standards hasn't ended. Committees and staff will continue to fine-tune this document in preparation for the launch of PDI in July 2003.

GCSAA NEWS

Board Meeting Highlights and Happenings

The GCSAA summer board meeting was held in Charleston, S.C., home base for president Tommy Witt. In one day, we covered a substantial amount of ground:

- We approved a partnership agreement with the national Irrigation Association to provide education to superintendents at the Conference & Show, as well as through affiliated chapters. We also approved an agreement to jointly develop and promote a Golf Course Irrigation Auditors program, designed to help superintendents analyze their water needs and irrigation efficiency.
- We renamed the boardroom at headquarters in Lawrence the John Morley Room, after the founder and first president of GCSAA.
- We reviewed present and potential sponsorship opportunities, which enable GCSAA to provide services and events that would not be possible with GCSAA funds alone.
- We reviewed the financial statements of the association and heard a report from the CEO.

Other noteworthy discussions at the meeting included:

- The pricing of educational programs. The association is continuing to explore and develop ways to deliver educational programs so that they're affordable and accessible to members. We are looking closely at the Internet as a viable option.
- The proposed SOP for the new GCSAA Political Action Committee (PAC). This is important stuff. The PAC is intended to back candidates for federal election who support the interests and concerns of the golf course superintendent profession and the golf course management industry. The PAC can accept only individual contributions – none from the association. GCSAA can, however, fund administrative costs of the PAC (managing bank accounts, bookkeeping, coordinating reports, etc.), as well as any costs associated with communications and solicitations.
- GCSAA's Internet, or E-Commerce, strategy. We reviewed conclusions from industry focus groups on the E-commerce option and decided to pursue the online mall or "storefront" model. Conceptually, the mall will work much like our trade show: GCSAA will lease storefront space online, and then all transactions will be strictly between the superintendent and the supplier. For superintendents, it's an opportunity to research and purchase products 24 hours a day. For suppliers, it's an opportunity to set up shop in the turfgrass management industry's most trafficked website for only a fraction of the cost of creating and maintaining their own E-Commerce site. GCSAA will continue to work with Nterline (a division of XS Inc.) in developing the online mall.

Now that things in our country seem to be getting back to normal (at least as normal as they will ever be from here on in), I, along with the other association board members, are looking forward to getting back to business as usual as soon as possible. The impact of our national tragedy on the association will be a topic of discussion at our upcoming fall board meeting.

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

MEMBERSHIP

Proposed for Membership: John Godet, Affiliate, Turf Products Corp.; International Turf Applicators, Friend.

INFORMATION

Congratulations to Rob and Dawn Larson on the recent birth of their second child. Olivia Rose Larson was born September 17 and weighed in at 7 lbs., 13 oz.

To update your membership information via the web, go to www.gcsane.org and click "Membership Update Form." This info will be sent directly to our Executive Secretary, Sharon Brownell.

The Chapter Delegates meeting has been rescheduled for Dec. 1-2. The meeting will take place at the Kansas City Airport Marriott and GCSAA Headquarters. Delegates are being contacted by telephone, informed of the new meeting dates, and updated travel information, and asked to reschedule their flights by Nov. 1. Please contact GCSAA's Chapter Relations staff at (800) 472-7878 if you have any questions.

Two studies at the University of Massachusetts suggest there is a significant "window of opportunity" for application of fungicides for winter-long control. They wish to test this on real golf courses in the winter of 2001-2002 as part of the NERTF/New England/New York Turf Organizations snow mold research project. If you are interested in participating, please visit the UMass Extension web site. Feel free to contact Dr. Gail Schumann for further information at (413) 545-3413; schumann@pltpath.umass.edu.

EDUCATION

GCSANE and GCSAA are sponsoring two seminars. *Fundamentals of Turfgrass Management II* will be held on November 13 and *Strategic Planning for Golf Course Operations* on November 14. Both seminars cost \$120 and will be held at The International in Bolton, Mass. 0.7 CEUs are available for each. To register call (800) 472-7878 or visit gcsaa.org.

GCSAA is sponsoring two seminars to be held at the Cape Codder Resort in Hyannis, Mass. *Maximizing Turfgrass Disease Control* will take place November 7. On November 8, the seminar will be *Turfgrass Stress Management*. Cost is \$120 for each seminar and 0.7 CEUs are available. To register call (800) 472-7878 or visit gcsaa.org.

A new Certification in Turfgrass Management Distance Education Program is now available from the University of Georgia. This program has been specifically developed for those

who wish to pursue a series of college credit courses in turfgrass management and earn a one-year Turf Certificate at the same time. Courses are available through correspondence (printed material) or the World Wide Web. All courses earn college credit and no admission tests or transcripts are required. Both cool- and warm-season turfgrasses are emphasized. For more information, call (800) 877-3243 or visit www.gactr.uga.edu/usgis/TMC.html.

ITEM WANTED

Looking for used greens rollers for Toro 3100 triplex. Please contact: Jason Adams, Norfolk Golf Club, 166 East Street, Westwood, MA 02090; jayadams35@hotmail.com.

EMPLOYMENT

Superintendent. Hop Meadow Country Club is seeking an individual who will ensure quality maintenance and restoration programs for the enhancement of the golf course and grounds. Communication, administration, and executive leadership abilities are critical attributes. This person must be dedicated and willing to work with the general manager and lead the club in this new direction. Hop Meadow is a private 18-hole golf course located northwest of Hartford. Club includes eight clay tennis courts, two paddle courts and pool facility. It is a 1961 Cornish design - 6900 yards on 280 acres. Large creeping bentgrass greens, bent/poa/rye tees and fairways. Annual maintenance budget is \$700,000+ with an equipment replacement program of \$100,000. Automatic Toro irrigation system VT-II. Requirements include an agronomy/turf management degree or equivalent; knowledge of federal, state and local regulations including employment, safety, and environmental issues that affect golf course operations. Must have five or more supervisory years in turf management with strong assets in construction and renovation. Must have a certified pesticide license. Compensation includes salary, annual performance bonus, medical plan, long-term disability program, 401(k) plan, GCSAA expense package, vehicle, relocation allowance with cap, cell phone allowance, meals, and more. Please send resume to: Club Search Consultants, Don Silven, CGCS - Vice President, 86 Wickham Road, North Kingston, RI 02852.

Superintendent. Franklin Country Club is seeking an individual for the position of golf course superintendent. Requirements include: considerable experience with agronomy and turfgrass management practices; a working knowledge of golf facility construction principles, practices, and methods; and a thorough understanding of the rules and strategies of golf. Preference will be given to candidates with a degree in turfgrass

management, horticulture, agronomy, plant and soil science, or related disciplines; excellent communication skills; knowledge of current federal, state, and local laws and regulations affecting the management of golf course operations; and current federal/state certification and/or licensing as a pesticide/chemical applicator. Compensation includes a competitive base salary plus attractive benefits package. Please fax or e-mail resumes to jslandco@aol.com; Fax: (508) 359-5660. Mail resume to: Scott Lord, J.S. Lord and Co., 266 Main Street, Suite 7B, Medfield, MA 02052.

Superintendent. Superintendent needed for beautiful 18-hole championship golf course located in southern New Hampshire (Nashua area). The course is run by a regional golf course management company as a daily fee course. The superintendent is responsible for all landscaped areas, including the golf course and areas around the clubhouse. He/she is responsible for the care and maintenance of all equipment on-site and is also responsible to hire, train, and supervise an appropriate maintenance staff. The job requires a degree in turfgrass management or related science, and a thorough knowledge of propagation, planting, cultivating, watering, and complete care of all grasses, plants, and trees on the golf course. The work requires technical expertise and experience with a golf course irrigation system and storage ponds. The applicant must have a current pesticide license and must have a strong working knowledge of chemicals, fertilizers, and soil amendments used with golf courses. Two years of experience as an assistant superintendent or superintendent required. Salary is commensurate with experience and education. The company offers health benefits for the employee and his/her family, 401(k) with company match, paid vacation and holidays, meal allowances, and paid dues for state and national associations. Please send resume to: Friel Golf Management Company, 4 Friel Golf Road, Hudson, NH 03051, Attn.: Jay Leonard; e-mail: j.leonard@frielgolf.com.

TOURNAMENT RESULTS

**Pocasset Golf Club, Pocasset, Mass.
October 10, 2001**

Joint Meeting w/ Cape Cod GCMA
4-person teams, 2-best balls

1st Gross:

B. Dembek, L. Curtin, T. Fox, C. Tufts (150)

1st Net:

D. Higgins, D. Eddy, M. Casey, M. Williams (129)

2nd Net:

A. Drohen, J. Bresnahan, S. Mackintosh, B. Hay (135)

3rd Net:

J. Goulart, G. Wise, P. Heher, A. Comeau (137)

Closest to the Pin Winners: Charlie Downing, Tom Mason, Darren Eddy, Joe Pianna

Please Patronize these FRIENDS of the ASSOCIATION

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Meet host superintendent Steve Carr, Pocasset Golf Club

Host Superintendent for the October meeting of GCSANE is Steve Carr of Pocasset Golf Club in Pocasset, Mass.

Steve began his golf career at Pocasset in 1974 and has been there ever since. Originally, Pocasset was a family run business. His other golf experience was a season at Otis Golf Course as a seasonal greenskeeper.

A seventeen-year member of GCSANE, Steve is also a member of the Cape Cod Turf Managers Association. He served on

their board from 1980-87 and held all office positions.

Steve is a 1970 graduate of St. John's Prep. He has a B.A. from Stonehill College and also attended the Stockbridge winter school.

His other interests include family time, running, skiing, and reading. He was once a youth soccer coach, but is now relegated to the sidelines watching his son, Tyler (16), play high school soccer. He and his wife of 26 years, Lois, enjoy travelling whenever possible.

Pocasset Golf Club was opened in 1916 and designed by the esteemed Donald Ross. In 1989, the course was re-privatized. In addition, Manny Francis did some re-design work there.

The course is an 18-hole gem that plays to 6,450 yards from the tips with a slope of 127. The bent/poa greens are small, averaging 4,400 square feet. Steve is also responsible for keeping the 23 acres of bent/poa fairways and 26 acres of blue/rye/poa rough groomed.

"The Bear" . . . continued from page 3

"We spent Thursday afternoon following the 'Big Three' around the back nine. At the 16th tee Jack Nicklaus was looking over our shoulders at the scoreboard behind the 15th green, stuffing his face full of snacks. Then,

the quiet was broken when the words came out . . . 'Hey, Jack, how 'bout sharing some of those peanuts?' Bear to bear talk. Gary didn't get any peanuts but he got smirks from Arnold Palmer and Gary Player and a roar from the crowd. That made the whole trip for me."

So, Gary Luccini, The Bear to all of us, was just as big in life as the largest grizzly of them all . . . big in the eyes of family, friends, and even those mesmerized by the veneer of his gruff personality.

He was the proverbial one of a kind, very special in life and death.

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