



THE NEWSLETTER

August 2006

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.

The Boston Golf Club and Rodney Hine – A Unique and Mutual Appreciation

By **BRADLEY S. KLEIN**

When you're the superintendent of a course that you designed and grew in, you have no one to blame but yourself if things go wrong.

Not that Rodney Hine of Boston Golf Club is struggling with anything more than basic maintenance issues – like heat stress, humidity, finicky winters and golfers' expectations. But when you've been able to shift hats like he did, from first planning the holes on paper, then building and growing in the place and, finally, overseeing everyday upkeep, you acquire an unusually broad perspective.

It helps having the trust and confidence of the person who basically created the place. John Mineck, a Boston-area businessman and longtime volunteer with the Massachusetts Golf Association is an unreconstructed traditionalist who scoured the region for years in search of a site for an old-fashioned golf club. He spent almost as many years looking for the right designer. The 310-acre site, in Hingham, 18 miles south of downtown, was not an easy parcel – not with extensive rock, a road down the middle, wetlands and lots of elevation change.

In architect Gil Hanse, Mineck landed a designer whose classical commitments matched his own. Along with Hanse came his chief associate, Rodney Hine. Together, they set to work transforming the rugged parcel into a walkable, old-style layout, more evocative of The Country Club than of a modern TPC.

Along the way, Mineck realized that Hine was unusually attuned to issues of turfgrass selection and maintainability. Not that Hine wanted to make the place easy to tend. But he did want to make sure that Boston Golf Club's heathlands-style design, with scruffy bunkers, lots of scraggly fescues, and a rugged, tawny look, would hold up long after opening day.

That was in the spring of 2003, with rough clearing well under way and the shaping process about to begin. By then, Mineck was looking for a superintendent. And Hine in turn, was looking to settle down.



*Pictured above: Rodney Hine,
Superintendent, Boston Golf Club*

Hine, born in 1966 in Bridgeport, Ct., was raised in Portland, Ore., where his father was an Air Force flight mechanic. Hine played high school varsity golf and planned to attend Southern Oregon

State University. But the summer before he was due to start college, he was visiting his grandfather in Orlando when he stumbled upon the newly grown in Grand Cypress-North and South Nines. Hine was smitten, to the point where he signed on to superintendent Tom Alex's maintenance crew as a laborer and eventually abandoned plans to attend school in Oregon.

He spent three years at Grand Cypress and worked his way up to irrigation tech. Along the way, he had so many questions about maintenance and construction that he realized he needed to go to agronomy school. After much research, he chose North Carolina State, "because it was in the transition zone," says Hine, "and the curriculum covered both warm and cool season grasses." He graduated with a two-year associates degree in 1989, in the process working with the likes of Drs. Joe DiPaola and Charles Peacock as well as spending time at NC State's turfgrass research plots.

From there, a succession of jobs followed, including three years at Winged Foot Golf Club as an assistant to Bob Alonzi. When a grow-in job opened at Stonewall Golf Club in Elverson, Pa. Hine landed the post. There he met designer Tom Doak and his design associate, Gil Hanse. A year later, in 1993, Hanse opened up his own design shop, and by 1994 he had asked Hine to join him. Having taught himself to draw and to operate earth-shaping equipment, Hine was as fully armed as a

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young designer could be. Off he went for Hanse, spending five months in Scotland on the second course at Crail, then back home doing renovation work and a total of four new courses in the Northeast Corridor.

By 2002, he was at work with Hanse trying to tame the Boston Golf Club site. That's when Mineck realized Hine's talents. "It was clear he loved the golf course, and that he had the knowledge to maintain how it was designed," says Mineck. "He understood what it was all about. He got it."

Hine had also gotten married. His wife, Caroline, is a concert cellist who had been working as Hanse's office manager. Eventually, the young couple decided to start up a family, and Hine realized that traveling 40,000 miles a year and spending 3-4 days each week on the road was not the best way to do that. So when talk arose around Boston Golf Club of a job search for a superintendent, Hine, after getting Hanse's blessing, tossed his name into the ring and landed the job.

"It was clear he loved the golf course, and that he had the knowledge to maintain how it was designed," says Mineck. "He understood what it was all about. He got it."

**John Mineck
Boston Golf Club**

"Obviously, I had mixed emotions about losing him," says Hanse. "But he was doing it for all the right reasons. And once I got over the initial reaction, I realized he'll still be working for us, in a way, presenting the golf course like no one else ever could."

Bradley S. Klein is the founding editor of Golfweek's SuperNews.



*Pictured above:
The par 3, 6th at Boston Golf Club;
a flashback to the classic design*

CALENDAR...

- Sept. 18 **Superintendent / Club Official Tournament**
Winchester Country Club
Winchester, MA
Host: Dennis Houle
- October 2 **GCSANE Monthly Meeting**
Vesper Country Club
Tyngsboro, MA
Host: William Banfield
- October 23 **Dr. Joseph Troll Turf Education Fundraiser**
Westchester Country Club
Westchester, NY
Host: Joseph Alonzi, CGCS
- Nov. 6 **GCSANE Monthly Meeting**
9-Hole Meeting
Harmon Golf
Rockland, MA
Host: Kurt Calderwood
- Nov. 15 (Wed.) **GCSAA Seminar**
GPS/GIS Tools for Effective Course Management
Cyprian Keyes Golf Club
Boylston, MA
- Nov. 16 (Thurs.) **GCSAA Seminar**
Solving Your Drainage Problems
Cyprian Keyes Golf Club
Boylston, MA

President's Message - Opportunities to participate, advance and support are many as the season winds down

I've never been so happy to see Labor Day arrive as this year. If the persistent heavy rains weren't enough, the heat wave which saw temperatures reach 106 in the shade drained me. Luckily, the turf was stronger than I. The beautiful fall weather will be a carbohydrate reserve building period for both of us.



Even with the stressful summer many people have worked for the betterment of our association. Tom Ackley, CGCS and the staff at Juniper Hill did a great job of hosting the July meeting. I have to give Tom a lot of credit; not many are willing to step forward and host a July meeting. Russ Heller, CGCS has reserved a block of

rooms at the National Conference in Anaheim for New England members. Sign up with Russ before November 17th, if you'd like a room. Mike Luccini, CGCS has the new GCSANE web site ready for launching. It will blow you away at how good it is. Scott Lagana, CGCS has worked on the water use guidelines issued by the Massachusetts D.E.P. Several changes have been made from the original version, changes which will benefit our industry. You'll hear more about this in the fall. Pat Daly, CGCS organized the family day at the Brockton Rox. Mr. Gagne has been hard at work converting the newsletter from the old format to a transitional one then to the web based delivery. The only one relaxing is Mr. Hermanson, who deserves it after his many years working for our members.

Now that summer has passed it is time to meet with our committees and business associates and start planning for next season. There are some excel-

lent opportunities available for you to do this. The Superintendent/Club Official Tournament at Winchester Country Club is a great way to mix business and pleasure with the people important to the funding and success at your club. The Dr. Joe Troll fundraising event at the Westchester Country Club will be attended by many of our most successful Stockbridge and UMass graduates. The conversations at both these events can be a positive ending to this year and the beginning to a better future. Why not participate in either or both of these events and be in a better professional position because of it?

In addition to our local work and association, one of our finer members, Jim Fitzroy, CGCS is gearing up for the GCSAA elections in February.

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Alumni Turf Group

3rd Annual

Dr. Joseph Troll

Turf Education Fundraiser

October 23, 2006

Westchester Country Club

Rye, New York

Joseph Alonzi, CGCS, Host

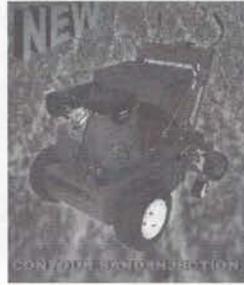
Entry forms, additional information for this event, and ATG information are available online at
www.alumniturfgroup.com.

Field is limited to the first 248 players that sign up.

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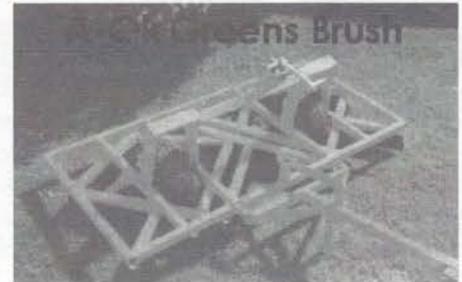


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Jim has been nominated for the Secretary/ Treasurer position. He has a worthy opponent in Mark Kuhns of the Baltusrol Country Club in New Jersey. It will take a concerted effort to win the election by either party, as both are well respected. If you know superintendents in other states, please give them a call and speak well of Jim. The more we can support him the better his odds are of winning.

I hope all is well with your families and friends.

Sincerely,
Pat Kriksceonaitis
President, GCSANE

In addition to our local work and association, one of our finer members, Jim Fitzroy, CGCS is gearing up for the GCSAA elections in February. Jim has been nominated for the Secretary/ Treasurer position.

Miner Scores 115 for the Ouimet ... Holes That Is!

The 14th annual Ouimet Marathon had one of its most successful days ever on August 9th, with one of its top fund raising totals (\$282,000), and two holes-in-one recorded. That Marathon was played, as always, at Stow Acres Country Club's South Course. The \$282,000 brought the 2006 Ouimet Marathon, which is believed to be the highest fund raising Marathon in the US this year, to \$2.8 Million raised since the event's inception in 1993.

Carl Miner, Superintendent at the President's Golf Club in Quincy, repre-

sented GCSANE in the event. Miner completed a staggering 115 holes of play, while raising over \$2,000 towards the cause.

"This was a fabulous day for The Ouimet Fund. There was wonderful enthusiasm, perfect weather and great conditions at Stow Acres and it allowed people to play a tremendous amount of holes. I congratulate and thank all the players, fundraisers and donors who made this possible," said Ted Hansberry, Ouimet Fund President.

Credit: Ouimet Fund web site

Joseph Troll Turf Education Fundraiser - Oct. 23, 2006 The Alumni Turf Group request raffle prize donations

Our Rounds of Golf Raffle has been a very successful means of raising funds for the construction of the Joe Troll Building and further support for Turf Education and Research at the Joseph Troll Center.

Please consider donating a round of golf or purchasing raffle tickets to help make this year our best. The tickets are available and can be purchased by contacting Sharon Brownell at our office at 508-758-3688.


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Moore's Contributions Spanned the Globe

By Bradley S. Klein

The industry has lost one of the pioneers of modern golf course management. Sherwood A. Moore, CGCS, who served as president of the GCSAA in 1962, was a widely honored figure, having received the USGA Green Section Award in 1987 and the GCSAA Old Tom Morris Award in 1990. He also served terms as president of New York's Metropolitan Golf Course Superintendents Association and the Connecticut Golf Course Superintendents Association and won each of those groups' distinguished service award. In May, he received an honorary doctorate degree from the University of Massachusetts. His career included overseeing two U.S. Opens during his two tours at Winged Foot Golf Club in Mamaroneck, N.Y. Moore died July 29 at his home in Brewster, Mass. He was 90.

Maurice "Skip" Cameron, former superintendent of Canoe Brook Country Club in Summit, N.J. was very close to Moore. "He was my uncle, my mentor and my colleague," says Cameron. "He was always involved, always improving himself and the profession."

Born in 1915 in West Haven, Conn., Moore attended the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at what was then Massachusetts State College (now the University of Massachusetts) and graduated in 1937 with a degree in turfgrass management. Moore first planned on a career in horticulture, but subsequently migrated to golf, with his first full-time job as assistant greenkeeper at Lake Mohawk Golf Club in Sparta, N.J.

Then came World War II, with Moore serving a four-year stint in the U.S. Army as an infantryman and later in the U.S. Army Air Corps, where he specialized in meteorology. After the war, Moore served as superintendent at Hollywood Golf Club in Deal, N.J. In 1957, he moved on to Winged Foot just in time for that year's U.S. Women's Open. He also was superintendent for the 1959 U.S. Open held at Winged Foot.

He sandwiched his tenure at Winged Foot around 13 years at Woodway Country Club in Darien, Conn. Upon his return to Winged Foot, Moore oversaw preparations for the inaugural U.S. Senior Open in 1980 and the '84 U.S.

Open. He later tried his hand at retirement on Cape Cod but soon was recruited as grow-in superintendent at The Captains Golf Course in Brewster, Mass.

In later years, his interests extended into botanical and turf development, including participation in the USGA Turf Advisory Service and work as a consultant in Africa for the International Executive Service Corps.

Moore is survived by his wife, Marie; brother, Jackson of Tryon, N.C.; daughters, Sherry Moore of Newburyport, Mass., and Carol Murphy of Hawaii; son, Glenn of South Salem, N.Y.; and five grandchildren.

The family asks that donations be made to Hospice & Palliative Care of Cape Cod, 270 Communication Way, Hyannis, MA 02601; or the Sherwood A. Moore Turfgrass Research Endowment, c/o Rick Robar, Development Office, 311 Stockbridge Hall, 80 Campus Center Way, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003.

Credit: Golfweek's SuperNews Online

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Dobosz and Kirkman Represent New England in Fine Fashion at the BASF People vs. The Pros Challenge

By: Mark Gagne

The 2006 season has offered plenty of excitement as far as Ron Dobosz is concerned. This spring, Dobosz accepted the Superintendent position at Ludlow Country Club, and with it all the challenges faced in learning a new piece of property. Combine this with a trip to Pinehurst for a week in August, where Dobosz represented GCSANE and played some of the best golf of his career, and you have a summer to remember.

Regional BASF qualifying events for the People Versus the Pros and Superintendents Challenge were held throughout the country and produced 200 winners that went on to play at Pinehurst in North Carolina. Included in the 200 winners were Ron Dobosz and Ron Kirkman of Needham Golf Club, as well as 20 other golf course superintendents.

Dobosz, playing to a 0 handicap, fired rounds of 69, 75, and 73 for the championship, finishing in third place and missing the opportunity to square off against Retief Goosen by just one stroke. However, his play earned "low superintendent" honors and qualified him for the BASF Superintendent's Challenge, where he faced off against Steve Jones, a 9 handicapper from Greenville Country Club in Greenville, South Carolina. The match was played on Pinehurst's #8 course, site of past U.S. Opens, and was witnessed by well over 200 spectators as well as local and national media. After 7 holes, Dobosz was one down, but Jones stroked on the next 3 holes and increased his lead to 4 up. Dobosz battled back, winning 4 out of the next 5 holes, but fell to Jones on the Par 5 17th. On 17, Dobosz spun a 5 iron second shot off the green, and chipped up to six feet. His downhill sidehill birdie putt caught the edge of the hole, but slid by. Jones knocked his approach shot 90 feet from the hole, and managed to two putt for the win. Dobosz received a \$5,000 cash prize from BASF for his outstanding play, where he shot level par for 5 days over the various Pinehurst courses. As champion, Jones earned \$10,000 cash and \$10,000 in BASF products for his home course.

Kirkman held his own during play in the senior division, where he started out with two rounds of 75 net before carding an 84 net on the final day. Coinciden-

tally, Kirkman was paired with Jones for the first two rounds, and was only 1 shot behind Jones after 20 holes of play. Kirkman was making a comeback on the final day when a heavy downpour suspended play on the back nine. A wet glove partially to blame, Kirkman's tee shot on #14 found a fairway bunker. Kirkman played a 4 iron from the bunker, which barely hooked into a hazard,

leading to a quintuple bogey and dashing his chances for a final run at the leaders.

Both Dobosz and Kirkman praised BASF and Pinehurst for conducting a first class event and they encourage more superintendents to try to qualify next year. Highlights of the tournament are scheduled to air on Oct. 17 at 7:30 p.m. ET on ESPN2.



BASF Superintendent's Cup runner up Ron Dobosz accepts a \$5,000 check from Dr. Toni Bucci, BASF Professional Turf & Ornamentals Business Manager. From L-R: Andy Batkin, Innovative Media Solutions; Karl Ravech, ESPN; Toni Bucci, BASF Professional Turf & Ornamentals; Ron Dobosz, superintendent winner Steve Jones; and Steve Mona, GCSAA.

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

MEMBERSHIP

Welcome New Members:

A.D. Makepeace Company, Friend Member; Mark Bartlett, Affiliate, A.D. Makepeace Company; Ryan Scotto, Assistant, Nantucket G.C.; Jim Pritchard, Affiliate, UAP; Jason Brostrom, Superintendent, Green Hill Municipal Golf Course

Proposed for Membership:

Matthew Colombo, Student, U Mass
Frank Hancock, Superintendent,
Eastward Ho! Country Club

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our condolences go out to The Moore family on the passing of Sherwood Moore.

Our thoughts are with Jim Stravos, CGCS of Cape Ann Golf Course, as his son battles an extended illness.

Congratulations to Daniel Higgins, CGCS, of Hickory Hills Golf Course, Dan recently completed the renewal process for maintaining his CGCS status with the GCSAA.

Congratulations to Jim Fitzroy, CGCS, of the President's Golf Course. Jim was recently nominated to the GCSAA Board of Directors for the position of Secretary/Treasurer.

ASGCA FREE BROCHURE

The American Society of Golf Course Architects offers a brochure "**The Golf Course Remodeling Process – Questions & Answers,**" available without charge to anyone interested in the renovation planning process. To obtain a copy—available by e-mail as a PDF or by mail—of "**The Golf Course Remodeling Process – Questions & Answers,**" contact the American Society of Golf Course Architects by mail at 125 N. Executive Drive, Suite 106, Brookfield, Wis. 53005, by e-mail at info@asgca.org or by phone at (262) 786-5960. For more information on ASGCA, visit their website at www.asgca.org.

GCSANE NEWS

We need your help with an online survey:

Be on the lookout for an email message soliciting members to participate in an on-line survey, the results of which will become the basis for a future newsletter article. The survey only takes 5 minutes to complete and focuses on how we as superintendents manage ourselves and our crew.

Request for Club Newsletter Articles:

We all have to sit down every month to write articles for our club's newsletter and it gets harder and harder to get inventive. If anyone is interested in emailing copies of their best articles to get printed in GCSANE's Newsletter, please send to Mark Gagne, Editor: mgagne@walpolecc.com or Julie Heston, Business Manager: jheston@verizon.net. This would be helpful to other superintendents as they search for ideas for their own club newsletters.

The Newsletter Mailing List:

Anyone who wishes to add their green chairman or board member to *The Newsletter* mailing list, please contact Sharon Brownell at (800) 833-4451 or sbrownell@verizon.net.

GCSANE Friends and Affiliates "End of Season" Advertising Special:

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MEMBERS ON THE MOVE

Congratulations to Kurt Calderwood who has recently accepted the superintendent position at Harmon Golf in Rockland, Massachusetts.

POSITION OPENINGS

Assistant Greens Superintendent, Franklin Country Club, Franklin, Massachusetts

Franklin Country Club is a private 18-hole golf club designed by Styles and Van Kleeck in 1899 with current renovations by Mark Mungeam. Predominately Poa greens, bentgrass tees and fairways. Toro Network LTC radio/computer controlled irrigation system. Grounds staff of 4 in the winter and 18 in the summer. Educational requirements include A.S. or greater in Turf Management or related field. Minimum of three (3) years of golf course maintenance experience. Position includes assisting superintendent in all facets of golf course maintenance with major emphasis on staff training and supervision, fertilizer and plant protectant applications, irrigation system operation and repair, record-keeping and daily course set-up and surveillance. Must know how to play golf. Excellent oral and written communication skills along with a positive attitude are highly valued. Salary is commensurate with experience. Benefits include 50% employer paid health insurance, simple IRA, annual vacation, Christmas bonus, dues for GCSAA and GCSANE.

Deadline for applications is November 1, 2006. Please send resume to: Michael Luccini, CGCS, Franklin Country Club, 672 East Central Street, Franklin, MA 02038. Email: mluccini@aol.com

Assistant Superintendent, Essex Country Club, Manchester, Massachusetts

Essex Country Club is a private 18-hole early American championship course designed by Donald Ross and managed by Pat Krikseonaitis. Essex Country Club is hosting the 2010 Curtis Cup. The property also has 11 tennis courts (11 grass, 10 Har-tru and 1 Nova II), 3 platform tennis courts, pool and clubhouse grounds. This is a unique opportunity for a candidate willing to commit to a quality club while learning the Essex approach to fine turf management with reduced pesticide use. Education requirements include a minimum of two years Turf Grass Management degree; 4 years preferred. Candidate must have a minimum of 4 to 6 years experience in Turfgrass Management. All candidates must have been involved in all aspects of course management to include: purchasing, budget preparation and control, staffing and staff training. Candidates with considerable experience in IPM strategies including monitoring mapping will be strongly considered. Knowledge of natural and organic fertility and plant health is important. Candidates must have or be able to obtain a Mass. Pesticide License (category 37) and be trained in the latest IPM techniques. A proficiency in Microsoft Word and Excel is required. Must be familiar with early American golf course design and maintenance. Salary is commensurate with experience. Benefits include national and local dues, attendance at GCSANE Conference, medical, holidays, vacations and 401k. Date available: November 1, 2006 Please submit resumes to: bphvd@juno.com Harvard Golf Partners, Bob Piantedosi, PO Box 455, Harvard, MA 01451 Phone/Fax: (978) 369-5904 All inquiries are strictly confidential.

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