



THE NEWSLETTER

August 2010

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.

Talking with Tom Brodeur - Preparing for The Deutsche Bank Championship

By Kristin Russo

Local business owners in Norton and Mansfield are rolling out the welcome mats, professional golfers are practicing their putting, and sports commentators are reviewing the players and their records, all in preparation for The Deutsche Bank Championship, the PGA TOUR's premier New England event, which will take place at Boston TPC over Labor Day weekend.

Everyone has a job to do to prepare for the onslaught excitement, and no one knows that better than Tom Brodeur, superintendent of Boston TPC, whose job it is to prepare the course, not just for the main event, but for the charitable events leading up to the main competition that will benefit a number of local causes.

"Each year the weather leading up to the tournament presents a challenge, as August would normally be a time to be kind to the turf and we are put in the position of having to be a little more aggressive in order to make a quality playing surface. We have been fortunate so far to have been reasonably well prepared for each of the events," said Brodeur, who has served at the helm of Boston TPC since it first opened in 2002, has overseen seven successful Deutsche Bank Championship events at the Norton facility since 2003.

Already tents, media towers, and bleacher stands are popping up around the grounds in preparation for crowd that accompanies the annual PGA TOUR event. Preparing for every contingency is not an easy job, said Brodeur. "It feels like we're playing defense right up until the last minute."



Tom Brodeur, Superintendent, TPC Boston

Photo Credit: Kristin Russo

Relying on the experience of having successfully orchestrated the tournament in past years, and with help from local professionals who lend their expertise year after year, Brodeur said Boston TPC will be ready.

"We count on local superintendents, assistants, interns and others to help us do this," said Brodeur, noting that his staff nearly doubles in number

during the tournament, and that doesn't include locals who volunteer to work at the event. "We just close ranks and focus on getting done what needs to get done."

This includes persuading their regular membership to be patient while the club is closed for the tournament.

"Our mission is to provide excellent service; that's our goal, and it's a product we're proud of," said Brodeur. "There's no doubt that this is a major inconvenience to our membership. The people we take care of, who take care of us, agree, basically, to be dismissed for 11 days. But these are people who have a passion for the sport, and I think they feel a part of something great, something exceptional, with our involvement in this high profile event."

Brodeur said the facility's unique location, "We're literally in the middle of nowhere," eliminates inconvenience to residential abutters. In addition, the annual event is a welcome boon to local businesses.

"There are very few direct abutters to the property as the developing partners (two local partners and the PGA TOUR) deeded about 150 acres, 75

continued on page 2

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Brodeur - continued from page 1

each to the land preservation societies of Norton and Mansfield. Most of the gifted land is attached to other conservation land. I do know most of the neighbors and they have all been helpful when we needed to gain access for heavy equipment or for tournament related reasons," said Brodeur.

In addition to local charities that benefit from the event, Brodeur noted, "The immediate community seems very appreciative the event on a number of levels, including economic. The Greater Boston Business and Convention Bureau provided a recent estimate of about \$60 million annually of direct economic impact from the tournament to the Providence - Boston corridor," he said.

And while the facility is known for its high profile affiliation with the PGA TOUR and the Deutsche Bank Championship, it embraces a modest, homey, New England feel that incorporates rich and textured foliage with with rusty Northeastern hues, traditional stone walls, and well-placed water features that are reminiscent of Cape Cod sand dunes.

Brodeur said the course and surrounding wetlands maintain a healthy ecosystem by relying on native vegetation that looks polished and manicured, but is in fact quite low maintenance

and grows with little help or encouragement from the facility's gardeners. A recent major renovation that is complemented throughout the year by smaller projects and updates has created, "A golf course that has gradually morphed from the originally built version to what I think is a more visually compelling and interesting-to-play golf course. If anything, it would be nice to show people the before and after versions so they could appreciate the improvement," he said.

Brodeur, who has run golf courses all over the Northeast, including in Chicago and at Manchester-by-the-Sea, during his 35-year career in the industry, said that while quality course facilities are crucial, it's the people and opportunities for bonding with friends and family that make the sport wonderful and worthwhile.

"I think it's a good family sport because it affords family members an opportunity to enjoy each other's company, talk, and in our case to be patient in the process of learning the game. It was and remains an especially good way to meet and get to know people," he said. "My wife and 7-year-old son have taken the game in the last couple of years. Walking nine holes with them on a Saturday morning is as good as it gets." ❖

GCSANE Scholarship Recipients

Congratulations to this year's GCSANE scholarship recipients.

The Thomas Scholfield Memorial Scholarship was awarded to:

Alexander Osgood

Three additional scholarships were awarded to:

Jack Bresnahan

Sara Passios

Savanna Tufts

President's Message

Keeping it all in perspective.

As many of you know this is sometimes easier said than done. Recently I had the opportunity to put that phrase to the test as my oldest employee and dear friend became ill while on the course. After a few days in the hospital he was back home and at work again the following Monday. A small change in his appearance led my Mechanic Pete Williams to alert me to him not feeling well and he ended up being diagnosed with a small stroke. Just walking out of the hospital at the age of 83 was a miracle, never mind being able to drive, go back to work, or enjoy a few beers at night.

I hope you can also keep that phrase in mind while touring your course and looking at the grass and reviewing course conditions. Em-

ployee and member health/safety should always be considered on a daily basis, especially during these dog days of summer, and family (and your own health) should never be put on the back burner during these times of high stress. As exhibited on my golf course, the crabgrass, thin turf, and divots can wait until tomorrow.

In this issue you will find a great profile on Tom Brodeur. For those of you who don't know him, Tom has been at TPC Boston since construction began and will again be hosting the Deutsche Bank Championship on September 3-6. The golf course is always in great shape for the pros and members alike, as we found out a few years ago when he hosted GCSANE. Best of luck to Tom and his staff over Labor Day weekend.

Michael Stachowicz gives us an

update on the NERTF Turf Research, Mike Luccini updates us on the financial status of the Association, Carl Miner announces our S&B Scholarship winners and updates us on the Ouimet Marathon results. As always, special thanks to Julie Heston for all her hard work on making The Newsletter happen.

Some things you should know about over the coming months:

- It's never too early to start thinking about nominating a worthy member for the 2011 Distinguished Service Award. Please review the notification in the newsletter and send your nomination to Membership Chairman Rich Gagnon.
- Our next golf event is on September 29th at the William J. Devine Golf Course at Franklin Park. Russ Heller is the Superintendent at the second oldest public golf course in the country. If you have never played there it is a treat.
- The Assistant Superintendent initiation has been waived again for 2010. The Board believes that this Association offers each Assistant an avenue for education and builds camaraderie for their future as Golf Course Superintendents. Membership applications can be found on the website under the "Membership" tab or by calling Sharon. The 4th Annual Assistant Superintendent Tournament is being held at Franklin Country Club on October 19 where Trent Lynch assists Mike Luccini.

Until next month, may the simple pleasures of life including good friends, family, health, happiness and peace be with you and your families. ❖

Patrick Daly, CGCS
GCSANE President

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Call for Nominations - 2011 GCSANE Distinguished Service Award

By Rich Gagnon

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of New England (GCSANE) annually selects an individual or individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to the advancement of the golf course superintendent's profession. This is your chance to nominate a fellow GCSANE member that you feel is worthy of the Distinguished Service Award for the year 2011. The nominee must not have been a recipient of this award in the preceding ten years. The Membership Committee welcomes recommendations for nomination.

To propose a candidate for this program, please submit a letter of recommendation to the Membership Committee Chair. The letter should summarize the candidate's contributions and leadership to the superintendent community both locally and nationally.

The GCSANE membership committee will recommend a recipient to the GCSANE Board of Directors to be awarded at the Annual meeting in January 2011.

Nominations must be received by **December 1, 2010.**

Submit nominations to:

Rich Gagnon
Membership Chair, GCSANE
Segregansett Country Club
85 Gulliver St.
Taunton, MA, 02780
sccturf@hotmail.com

Past Award Winners

1997 – Anthony Caranci

1998 – Richard D. Haskell

1999 – Robert Grant

2000 – Dr. Joseph Troll

2001 – Geoffrey Cornish

**2002 – Richard C. Blake and
Phillip I. Cassidy**

2003 – Leon St. Pierre

2004 – Donald C. Hearn

2005- Donald Marrone

2006 – Gerry Finn

2007- Ronald Kirkman

2008- Robert Ruzala

**2009- Robert and Norman
Mucciarone**

2010- Brian Cowan



Finance Committee Update

By Michael Luccini, CGCS

Year to date we are tracking in line to meet our budget. A few items to note are as follows:

Many of our assistant superintendent members have not renewed their memberships this year, thus we have a substantial dues shortfall in the assistant category. Please remember that GCSANE is once again offering your Assistants the opportunity to join us without paying the initiation fee of \$100. Please consider not only renewing your Assistant's memberships but also signing up any new Assistants.

The severe weather conditions this year and current economic situation has also adversely affected the attendance at many of our monthly meetings. Our golf and education chairmen have done a great job making ends meet, but we are exploring ways to cut expenses going forward. Advertising revenue has also suffered, but I would like to pass along a big thank you to our friends and affiliates who have chosen to continue with their support for our member functions, in addition to our newsletter and web site.

We have also approved the purchase and implementation of new accounting software to aid the association with our budgeting and expense controls going forward. ❖

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Luccini, CGCS
GCSANE Finance Chairman

Happenings at the New England Regional Turfgrass Foundation

Yes, March is a long way away, but it is nice to think about it now, especially with how this summer is going. The NERTF has met a couple of times since the last Conference and Show to assess how well the 2010 show went, what to do for the 2011 show, and decide what research to support.

The 2010 show showed a lot of successes. The Monday seminars continue to grow with 345 attendees this year, Steve Palermo was a well received keynote speaker, a silent auction that generated a record \$24,000 to support research, a successful dinner supporting the Geoff and Carol Cor-

nish endowment at the Stockbridge School of Agriculture, The University of Massachusetts won the NERTF turf bowl, over 1800 people attended, and the education program was large and diverse. Massachusetts professionals makes up the bulk of attendees with a little over 800....the closest second in Connecticut with 254.

New research funded this year include annual bluegrass weevil control at the University of Rhode Island, management of DMI resistance at UMass, Nitrogen and anthracnose management at the University of Connecticut, Fairway topdressing also

at UConn, and organic athletic field management at UConn. These are just the new initiatives; there are still other research commitments NERTF is funding that started within the past few years.

As the summer goes by and into the fall NERTF will be looking to finalize the education program, show logistics, and the keynote speaker for 2011.

Submitted by:
Michael Stachowicz

Now Available: UMASS Extension's 2010-2011 Professional Guide for IPM in Turf for Massachusetts

The *2010-2011 Professional Guide for IPM in Turf for Massachusetts* is intended for use by professionals as a tool in the management of all types of turf: from lawns, to fine playing surfaces, to utility areas. The principles presented are adaptable to a wide range of management schemes: from organic, to low-maintenance, to high-intensity maintenance for premier turf sites.

The freshly revised and re-designed 2010-2011 edition features the latest techniques critical to environmentally sensitive, integrated turf management with an emphasis on natural resource protection. The guide contains research-based recommendations for turfgrass selection, as well as comprehensive pest management guidelines and pesticide regulation compliance information. Alternative and cultural pest control options are highlighted, and pesticide selection advice is based on least environmental impact.

Initially developed in 1991, this revision for 2010-2011 marks the 9th edition of this popular publication. Al-

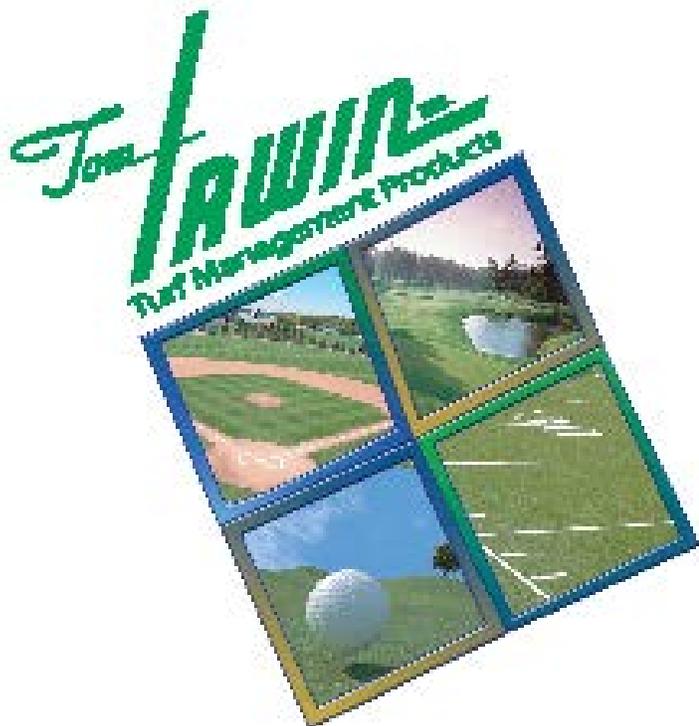
though some aspects of discussions such as turfgrass selection, timing of management practices and pesticide regulations are specific to Massachusetts, much of the material is pertinent to the management of cool-season grasses throughout the Northeast and beyond. Here are just some of the updated, distinctive pieces of information you will find in UMass Extension's *2010-2011 Professional Guide*:

- ✦ latest recommended turfgrass cultivars for MA, based on NTEP data
- ✦ updated water management & conservation guidelines
- ✦ cultural management approaches for turf diseases
- ✦ revised fungicide listing w/ new resistance management tools
- ✦ turf pest damage & cultural practice timing charts
- ✦ biological management of turf damaging insects
- ✦ efficiency, residual, and environmental hazards of turf insecticides
- ✦ monitoring and management of turf weeds

- ✦ new detailed herbicide profile listings
- ✦ updated MA pesticide regulation compliance information

For complete information and online ordering, visit http://www.umassturf.org/whats_new.html.

Bulk discounts are available. For ordering questions, contact the UMass Extension Bookstore at 413-545-5537. For content-related questions, call the UMass Extension Turf Program at 413-545-2965 or e-mail proguide@umassturf.org. ❖



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Jeff Houde	203-731-1776
Brian Luccini	781-799-9450
Chris Kneale	860-539-1516

11 A Street Burlington MA 781-273-0143

Ouimet Marathon Results

By Carl Miner

For the 2nd year in a row Nat Binns represented GCSANE at the Ouimet Golf Marathon played at Stowe Acres Country Club on August 11th. Nat completed 100 holes of golf and raised \$3,300 for the Francis Ouimet Scholarship Fund. Donations can still be made towards this year's marathon by contacting Nat at nbinns@turfproductscorp.com.



Nat Binns represented GCSANE at the Ouimet Golf Marathon

Golf Quiz:

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BORDEN LAUNCHES NEW PRODUCT

As the nights get cooler and the days get shorter, it's time to think about 2011 and budget preparations. Hopefully, it has been a successful golf season at your facility and you are finally getting a break from syringing, and praying your water source will be adequate to finish the year.

The Borden Company has been very active as well this year. In our 49 years of providing quality lime applications to over 300 golf facilities we are expanding our product line to include a native, white bunker sand. We have access to a sand source that is local to Massachusetts, falls within the USGA sieve recommendations, and has a color similar to silica sand.

This white angular sand is available in 4 different consistencies - All figures are % Retained (Cumulative):

Sieve	Washed Sand*	C-33*	Bunkerwhite*	Bunkerwhite-Processed*
16 Mesh	13.9	14.1	11.1	11.1
20 Mesh	34	37.2	32.3	32.3
30 Mesh	56.1	60.1	54.6	54.6
40 Mesh	75.5	78.9	73.3	73.3
50 Mesh	88.6	90.7	86.2	86.2
70 Mesh	95.3	96.7	93.9	93.9
100 Mesh	97.7	98.6	97.1	97.1
140 Mesh	98.5	99.1	98.2	98.2
200 Mesh	98.9	99.3	98.8	98.8
-200 Mesh	1.1	0.7	1.2	1.2

We at The Borden Company have reached out to Paul Miller, CGCS, a forty-year retired golf course superintendent, to help us evaluate this new product. Paul was immediately impressed with the angular distribution of the particles and was quick to point out that all four samples fell in the low to high 90's cumulative in the 16 (1mm) to 60 (.25mm) mesh sieve range. We are presently looking for interested golf facilities to investigate and try this product. According to Paul, it is difficult to evaluate from a sample of how the sand will perform until actually in a bunker. However, to quote Paul, "the particle shape and with better than 70% of the product in the 40 mesh range I would find it hard to believe that there would be many embedded (plugged) lies."

The Borden Company is excited about this new product and look forward to continuing to serve the golf course industry. We would be happy to send samples of the sands to prospective customers and interested parties.



Jack Borden
The Borden Company
114 Summer Street
Maynard, MA 01754
978-897-2571

Paul Miller, CGCS
1 Leicester Road
Marblehead, MA 01945
781-258-1700
paulmiller924@verizon.net

GCSANE Meeting Results

August 17, 2010
Marlborough Country Club
Host: Ken Crimmings, CGCS
Individual Championship

Superintendent Division
1st Gross: Ron Dobosz 72
2nd Gross: Chris Tufts 74

1st Net: Bob Barnicle 70
2nd Net: Len Curtain 71

Affiliates Division
1st Gross: John Winscowicz 79
2nd Gross: Bob Healey 84

1st Net: Ernie Ketchum 73
2nd Net: Mike Turner 74

Senior Division
1st Gross: Don Hearn 85
2nd Gross: Len Blodgett 87

1st Net: Mike Hermanson 74
2nd Net: Norm Mucciarone 77

Closest to the pin #12 Tim Crane 4'9"

Long Drive #8 Bob Dembek

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**Fenway Golf Club
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Send all Newsletter ads to:

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jheston@verizon.net

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome New Members:

Casey Suglia, Assistant, Charles River CC

Paul Christopher Reynolds, Student, UMass Stockbridge

Jarrold Grant, Assistant, Franklin CC

John Viscariello, Assistant, Blue Hill CC

Our condolences are extended to Ron and Patty Smith and family on the passing of Patty's mother in June.

Our condolences are extended to the Egan family on the unexpected passing of Mark Egan, former superintendent at the Hyannisport Club, on August 1, 2010.

Our condolences are extended to Lou Bettencourt and family on the passing of Lou's father Louis Bettencourt, Jr. who passed away on August 3, 2010.

Our condolences are extended to Mike Turner and family on the tragic loss of Mike's 9 year old niece Aine Marie Phillips on August 10, 2010.

Congratulations to Russ Heller who scored a highly improbable hole in one on Tuesday, August 10th on the 6th hole of the Milton nine at Granite Links Golf Club. The 159 yard hole was aced using a 3 wood according to our sources who also noted that the shot was not hit directly at the flag yet did indeed settle into the cup after a somewhat circuitous route thus proving that even a blind squirrel can find an acorn now and then.

Congratulations to Eddie Olsen as he leaves the business to take a job with Needham Parks Department.

Congratulations to Tom Colombo, CGCS GCSAA certified golf course superintendent at Hyannisport Club who has recently completed the renewal process for maintaining his status as a Certified Golf Course Superintendent (CGCS) with the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA).

As in the past, *The Newsletter* continues to invite Affiliate members to submit a press release about new personnel, new products or a company bio. We will print each and every release free of charge. This is a great way to advertise for free.

THE 2011 UMASS WINTER SCHOOL FOR TURF MANAGERS - ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

The 2011 session of the UMass International Winter School for Turf Managers is just around the corner! This highly acclaimed certificate program runs for seven weeks, beginning Monday, 3 January and concluding on Thursday, 17 February.

The perennial goal of the UMass Winter School for Turf Managers is to furnish turf managers with the concepts essential to the maintenance of high quality turf, while instilling a sense of environmental stewardship and fiscal responsibility.

Winter School is especially suited for those who desire to take their career in turf management to the next level, but are unable to schedule a two or four-year degree program. At the same time, the course is appropriate for folks just getting started, and those who are seeking a career change. Some Winter School students have several years of experience in the turf industry and simply want to sharpen their skills.

Winter School provides 32 hours of instruction each week, covering general turf management, pest management (insects, diseases, and weeds), turf physiology, personnel management, irrigation, and much more.

Please note: The application deadline for international students is September 16, 2010.

For complete information on the program and application materials, refer to:

http://www.umasssturf.org/education/certificate_programs/winter_school.html

GCSAA Press Release Available

Heat wreaking havoc on golf courses nationwide: <http://www.gcsaa.org/news/NewsReleases.aspx?id=950d62b6-f501-42d5-afe2-9ad8f5922bf6>

Free Video by PACE Turf Educates Golfers on Heat and Turf Stress

As summer heats up, turf fries like an egg, and golfers grumble. In a new video posted by PACE Turf on YouTube, "Why Does Turf Die During the Summer?" Dr. Wendy Gelernter uses a frying egg to explain to golfers and greens committees how high heat can kill golf course turf. The six-minute video offers a clear, concise and unbiased explanation of this "hot" topic from a well-respected turf expert. This video is the scientific backup superintendents need who are scrambling to address golfers' and managements' questions and concerns.

"We hope superintendents find the video is a good tool for educating non-technical audiences that when temperatures get high enough, there is nothing that superintendents can do to stop the turf damage from occurring," said Dr. Gelernter, director of PACE Turf. "Under extreme conditions, cool-season turfgrass is just not sturdy enough to withstand the challenges that Mother Nature throws at it."

The PACE Turf video is suitable for viewing at greens committee meetings, in club houses or other areas frequented by golf patrons. It can be viewed on www.YouTube.com at [this link](#) or (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lg_CYn2YMvQ).

CALENDAR

September 29:

GCSANE Monthly Meeting

Team of Two Tournament
Franklin Park Golf Club
Host: Russell Heller, CGCS

October 18:

GCSANE Monthly Meeting

Member/Guest Tournament
Charles River Country Club
Host: Paul Blanusa

October TBA:

Assistants Tournament
Location: TBA

November 1:

GCSANE Monthly Meeting

9-Hole Meeting
Mount Pleasant Golf Club
Host: Jack Hassett

Please Patronize these FRIENDS of the ASSOCIATION

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