



THE NEWSLETTER

September 2012

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.

“Super Gone Salesman”...nope “Super Gone Seeder”

A Company Profile of North Shore Hydroseeding

By Jeff Urquhart, Editor

I should have known the answer when I asked Brian King, the Owner/Operator of North Shore Hydroseeding which is better, sod or hydroseed? “Sod does provide instant grass, but I’m partial to hydroseed” he replied.



A north shore native, Brian grew up in Reading and now resides in Danvers with his wife Heather, 17 year old daughter Pembroke and his 16 year old son named Trent. He has worked in the golf business since 1984 with employment stints at Unicorn Golf Course and Colonial Golf Course. Brian’s most recent position was the Golf Course Superintendent at Mt Hood Golf Course where he was able to branch away from the everyday golf course maintenance. The course was in need of some one to help it along through tough times and he was the perfect person to lay his hands on the property. His true passion was golf course construction and renovations with Robert Trent Jones Sr. as his inspiration. Brian routinely hopped on the dozer and headed off to renovate an area on the course. “I started hydroseeding because while I was renovating Mt Hood I needed to seed a lot of slopes. Steve Murphy (owner GFMI) gave me everything I needed, but wouldn’t go for the hydroseeder, so I bought one. Murph ended up hiring me to hydroseed and that’s how it started.”

North Shore Hydroseeding was established in 1996 specifically for the golf business. Although he left the golf course maintenance side of things he still wants to stay connected to the golf course industry. Brian added “Sometimes I wish I never left. I still can’t sleep in, hate humidity and live for that day in late August, early September when the air finally changes.” He enjoys working with Superintendents because the projects are always unique and he knows that the hydroseed will be properly taken care of. The biggest problem that he sees in the current hydroseeding business is that people actually don’t know what REAL hydroseed is. He stated, “There’s a big difference between putting out what I call green paper water and true hydroseed.” With what Brian



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GCSANE October Meeting



OAK HILL COUNTRY CLUB

840 Oak Hill Road
Fitchburg, MA 01420

**ANNUAL MEMBER-GUEST,
MONDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2012**

**HOST SUPERINTENDENT:
SCOTT LAGANA, CGCS**

Registration: 10:30 AM
Lunch: 11:00 – 11:45 AM
Shotgun Start: NOON

Reception and buffet dinner after golf – golf attire

Cost: \$200 per two person team.
You may bring more than one team.

Format: Best ball gross and net, 80% handicap

Registration deadline: October 18, 2012

**Contact: Don Hearn, Association Manager,
donhearn@gcsane.org**

Alumni Turf Group Update

Due to conflicts The Ninth Annual Joseph Troll Classic is being moved from October 9, 2012 to Tuesday October 23, 2012.

This great event is being hosted by Jason Adams, Golf Course Superintendent at Blue Hill Country Club in Canton, MA.

**2012 Honoree Michael Wallace, C.G.C.S.
who joins a prestigious group of past honorees:
William Spence, Donald Hearn, Ted Horton, Leon St. Pierre, George Thompson, Sherwood Moore, Geoffrey Cornish and
Dr. Joseph Troll**

Program:

9:30 am Registration
10:00 am Breakfast
11:00 am Shotgun, Best Ball of Four
Open Bar Cocktail Reception immediately after golf
5:00 p.m. Dinner and Reception
Cost - \$250.00 per Player
Singles Accommodated, Dinner Option only available

Applications, Raffle ticket sales and forms to donate a round of golf to our raffle are available on our website www.alumniturfgroup.com.

uses (true hydroseed) you get erosion control, quality turf and a great return on your investment.

I've played golf with Brian on an annual basis for 4 years now. We tee it up at a charity event held at Mt Hood where he did most of his renovations and to this day he talks about them like he did them yesterday. His excitement for golf course construction is far beyond what I could ever imagine and that same excitement is what keeps his business alive and growing (no pun intended). In closing, Brian mentioned "I'm not good at talking about myself, but I'd like to think that if I've been hydroseeding for Superintendents and I keep getting calls for more work, then I know I'm doing it right."

Brian King can be reached at nshydro@juno.com, Office (978)-762-8737 and his Cell is (978)-815-4827. ❖



Scramble Tournament at Winchendon School Golf Club in Memory of Dave Comee



Come Join the Fun and Share Great Memories

**Dave Comee Memorial
Annual Turkey Shoot, Golf Scramble &
Dedication Ceremony
October 14, 2012**

**Proceeds to benefit the Golf Course Superintendents
Association of New England David Comee
Scholarship Fund**

9:45 am: Meet at clubhouse

10:00 am: Dedication ceremony with golf to follow
Scramble Format

Barbeque and prizes after golf

Price: \$20 - members
\$50 - non-members

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The golf course will be set up as the annual Turkey Style.
Limited to 30 groups/120 players.

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Thoughts From Your Association Manager

DEUTSCHE BANK CHAMPIONSHIP AT THE TPC IN NORTON

Being in the office at Golf House gave me an opportunity to view the activity of the Deutsche Bank Championship from an off-course perspective. I had been told that Golf House would be a very busy place during tournament time and that certainly was true. It seemed the staff managing the off-course functions had all their bases covered and pulled off the staggering logistics without a hitch.

I've attended many championship events but never gave much thought to what was required to erect the stands, set up communications, provide transportation, hire security, train volunteers, provide rest rooms, manage parking, control access, distribute tickets, provide food and attend to the gigantic list of other items requiring attention.

Being a golf course superintendent, most of my attention is focused on the golf course. I'm always energized by the beauty of what a golf course architect has created and a golf course superintendent has brought to the highest level of conditioning. While the emphasis is on the players, in my mind the real superstars at the Deutsche Bank Championship are Superintendent Tom Brodeur, First Assistant Ken Macie and the hardworking staff and volunteers who put the paint on the canvas. They worked long days preparing for the event and their hard work paid off. The course was in fantastic condition and received raves from the players. I heard one say the greens at the TPC in Norton are the best on the PGA Tour!



Photo credit Stan Badz:PGA TOUR

GHIN (Golf Handicap Information Network)

Did you know that as a member of the GCSA of New England you could obtain a handicap index using the GHIN Handicap Service program? This service is made available to you at no additional cost as a membership benefit. To enroll in the program is very easy. Send me an email at donhearn@gcsane.org, include your name and address and the email address to which you'd like your handicap sent. When I receive your information this is what will happen. I'll enter your information into the GHIN system and issue you a GHIN number. Once you have your GHIN number you'll be able to enter your own scores and your handicap will automatically be updated on the normal schedule and sent to the email address you gave me. If you want to know more about the program visit the Massachusetts Golf Association's web site at mgalinks.org. Look under Player Services, then Handicapping Links. There you'll find resource topics dealing with handicaps.

STAN ZONTEK



Stan Zontek, a stalwart forty-one year employee of the USGA's Green Section died suddenly August 28, from a heart attack. To many, Stan was the face of the USGA's Turfgrass Advisory Service. He was the longest serving employee of the USGA and will be missed by his many

friends and associates in the world of turfgrass management.

Stan was the first agronomist I had the pleasure of meeting when I was starting my career as a golf course superintendent almost forty years ago. The first time I saw a stimp-meter was in the hands of Stan. He was taking readings of greens to determine benchmarks from which common green speeds could be determined. Yes, I remember when a fast green was rolling at eight and a half feet!

I always thought Stan was older than his years on the planet. His extensive knowledge and ability to unravel conundrums made me think he had experienced more than was possible for someone his age. He was fun to be around, had an easy-to-like disposition and had a library of stories that he could tell for hours.

I wonder if, or when, another person like Stan will come around. Could it be, he is and was, the one and only! ❖

By Don Hearn

Kevin Doyle - GCSAA Updates



As temperatures begin to descend in the Northeast, the meetings and events season begins to heat up at a near alarming rate. Calendars change from member and outing events, to chapter annual meetings, conferences and shows, and hopefully a few social rounds of golf with friends and family. Please don't read this as an effort to fill your calendar up further, more as some informational input to what hopefully is

already of your radar:

Golf Industry Show: February 4-8 San Diego

Housing is now open. For those who are particular about your accommodations at GIS, be aware that you can lock in your reservations now, and register for Conference and Show at a later date. Don't settle for your second choice; get your hotel booked early. There are also 25 new educational seminars and over 60 new additions to the Show floor to look forward to.

New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission (NEIWPCC):

Northeast Voluntary Turf Fertilizer Initiative

Who are they? "NEIWPCC is a leader in forming strong bonds between the New England and New York State environmental agencies, and is unique in its ability to bring diverse interest groups together, create forums for collaboration, and educate with innovative products. For well over six

decades, the Commission has managed interstate water conflicts by means of sound science, coordination, and adaptation" (source: www.neiwpcc.org/aboutus).

Why should they be on my radar? They began in the spring holding stakeholder meetings to gather information regarding fertilizer issues, and how to best implement a voluntary plan for reducing non-point source pollution of waterways by fertilizers. In late May, manufacturers of both synthetic and organic fertilizers addressed concerns to the Commission. End user stakeholders, such as landscapers and golf course superintendents, will have their opportunity to address the Commission sometime this fall. **Watch for information regarding these ongoing meetings, and remember: your involvement in advocacy will make a difference!**

Upcoming Deadlines: October 15th, Excellence in Government Relations Award nominations due October 19th, Deadline to apply for GCSAA/*Golf Digest* Environmental Leaders in Golf Awards. Be sure to check out www.gcsaa.org for more information on these awards, and great upcoming web-cast opportunities available.

Thank you, and as always please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of any assistance! ❖

Kevin Doyle

GCSAA Field Staff-Northeast Region

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University of Rhode Island Turfgrass Program Calling All Professionals – Mentors Wanted

Dr. W. Michael Sullivan

Summer internships were always and remain an integral part of our turfgrass and horticulture training programs. I have always viewed the intern experience as a chance for our classroom and laboratory programs to be 'field tested'. The internship also helps many students to clarify their career goals and objectives. Many of our URI graduates and many of the Association members have been instrumental over the years in helping us with this part of the program.

Over recent years, the process and expectations of the internship have changed. There are more rules for the student to obtain academic credit for the efforts; there are more formal expectations of the mentor superintendent and their facility; and there is a well documented increase in paper trails (even if electronic) to document the internship program.

The times have changed when Drs. Skogley, Jackson, Jagschitz or other URI faculty would give you a call and describe a student in need or when a member might call one of them and ask for a student. The wonderful relationships that these predecessors of mine had with the industry have eroded to some extent as time, work roles and people have changed. I'm hoping we can work together to renew some of the ease and convenience of students getting timely, challenging and rewarding internship experiences worked into

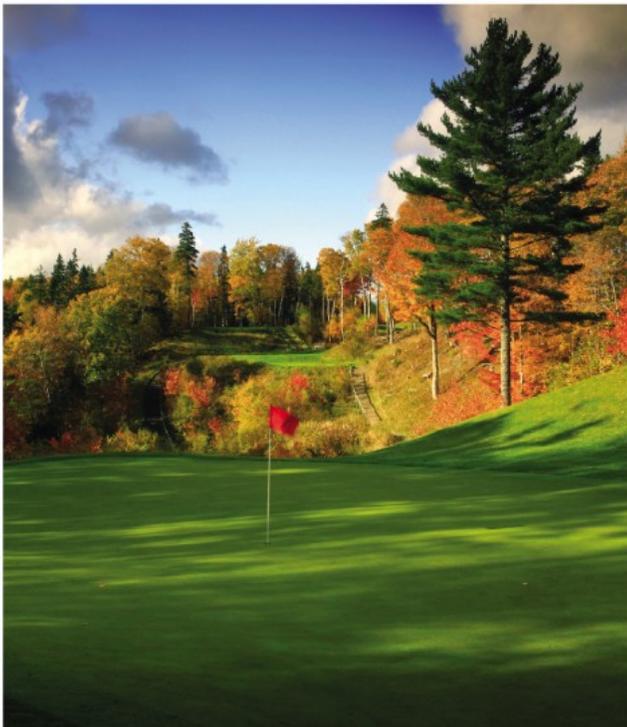
their programs.

How will WE do this? I hope with some active responses to a web based survey that can be found at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/URI2013StudentInternRequest> Due to the academic nature of the Plant Sciences Internship Program, our students must fulfill certain requirements to receive course credit for the internship experience. While the departmental Intern Advisor oversees the academic component, we do need your assistance in two areas:

The Learning Contract:

The Learning Contract serves as the academic and professional road map for the intern's time under your mentoring. It clearly identifies the student's learning objectives as well as the work place requirements, intern duties and hours. Students must submit their contracts prior to starting the internship. We ask our cooperating supervisors to please take time to sit with the intern during the interview or shortly thereafter to discuss and negotiate this very important requirement.

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Evaluation Process and Forms:

Internship mentors will be asked to complete a mid-term and final evaluation that is web based and will take approximately one hour total. These evaluations provide valuable information to the program both student and faculty that will help improve placement and program. We will expect that you will take the time to discuss the evaluations with the student before submitting

We will also be requiring the students to complete an evaluation of the Intern Placement so we can estimate success from their perspectives as well.

If you go to the link you will find a short electronic survey to begin the process of matching you with a student for 2013 and beyond.

The Rhode Island Turfgrass Foundation the Rhode Island Nursery and Landscape Associations and the College Administration have been working together along with other folks to reestablish the vibrant relationships that were enjoyed in the past that contributed to a solid education and careers for students. Your participation is desired and valued please jump in. ❖

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THE 2013 UMASS WINTER SCHOOL FOR TURF MANAGERS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The perennial goal of the UMass Winter School for Turf Managers is to furnish turf managers with concepts essential to the maintenance of high quality turf, while instilling a sense of environmental stewardship and fiscal responsibility. This highly acclaimed certificate program immerses students in a full-time, seven week course of study focused solely on the management of fine turf and taught by UMass faculty, staff and distinguished guests.

Winter School 2013 is scheduled for January 2 - February 15 at the UMass campus in Amherst. The program 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. Winter School is an excellent choice for professionals who seek to expand their knowledge and practical skills. The program is also uniquely suited for those who want to advance in their career, but cannot schedule a two- or four-year program, as well as career changers who want to enter the field of turf management.

The UMass Winter School for Turf Managers has been offered since 1927 and was the first program of its kind. The course provides 32 hours of intensive, expert instruction each week, covering general turf management, physiology, pest management (insects, diseases, and weeds), soils, fertilizers, irrigation, personnel management, and much more. Enrollment is limited, and close-knit classes offer the opportunity to form lasting relationships with peers and memories that will last a lifetime.

Applications are reviewed as they arrive, and since seating is limited earlier applications have a higher probability of acceptance. The application deadline for international students is September 21, 2012 to allow enough time for J-1 Visa processing.

For more information about Winter School and application materials, refer to:

<http://extension.umass.edu/turf/education/turf-winter-school>

Alternatively, call (413) 545-5202, or email academicprograms@contined.umass.edu ❖



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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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. Who said nothing in this world is free? Free advertising to better your company, wow what an offer.

Jeff Urquhart, Editor



I wasn't notified of an ambulance driving on the golf course. They called the Ghostbusters instead. When I asked why I wasn't notified, I was told that sometimes I'm not the priority on the golf course. A little confused but what the heck do I know? Luckily we just aerified that morning so the approaches were nice and soft!!

Jeff Urquhart

GCSAA Scholarship Recipients

GCSAA awards 17 college scholarships

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) has awarded scholarships to 17 college students as part of the GCSAA Scholars Program, funded and administered by GCSAA's philanthropic organization, The Environmental Institute for Golf.

"On behalf of the GCSAA membership, I congratulate these students on their outstanding achievement," GCSAA President Sandy Queen, CGCS, said. "I continue to be impressed and pleased by the talent in the various turfgrass programs and the education the students are receiving. The turfgrass management profession certainly has a bright future."

Hannah Estabrooks, Bozeman, Mont., is the first place winner in the competition. She receives a \$6,000 scholarship and is honored as the Mendenhall Award Winner. Estabrooks is a student at Montana State University.

The second place winner, **Peter White III, Worcester, Mass.**, receives a \$5,000 award and is designated as the recipient of the Allan MacCurrach Award. The MacCurrach Award is funded by the PGA Tour. **White attends the University of Massachusetts.**

Both Estabrooks and White also will each receive an all-expense-paid trip to the 2013 GCSAA Education Conference (Feb. 4-8) and Golf Industry Show (Feb. 6-7) in San Diego.

Source: Sept 18, 2012, *GCSAA This Week*



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Mike Brown (508) 272-1827
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Foxboro, Wellesley, Fall River Andy Felix - (508) 543-5644

Tuckahoe Turf Farms, Inc.

P. O. Box 167, Wood River Junction, RI 02894
Joe Farina (774) 260-0093

Turf Products Corp.

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Distributors of Toro irrigation & maintenance equipment and other golf-related products. Tim Berge, Dave Beauvais, Nat Binns, Andy Malone - (800) 243-4355

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