



THE NEWSLETTER

December 2014

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.

Working with the Pesticide Bureau

By Tom Albert

Say the words “Regulatory Agency” to most golf course Superintendents and they usually want to change the subject. That is exactly how Superintendent Bill Frank from Gardner Municipal felt. “The last thing I wanted was a visit from the Pesticide Bureau.” At least that was how he felt originally. “I was in my office and I saw a car pull up with an official, blue state plate and I thought oh boy.” That was when he met Taryn LaScola from the Pesticide Bureau Enforcement division.

“I went outside to meet Taryn and she introduced herself. She told me what she was doing there and asked me if I had a minute or if there would be a better time to come back.” This was something he wasn’t expecting. “She was going to come back when it was convenient for me?” Bill explained that it really wasn’t a good time but he would be glad to meet with her at a future date. Taryn explained to Bill that she was very flexible in her scheduling and that she would prefer to come back when he was actually doing an application. Bill and Taryn set up a time for the early morning hours when he was doing a simple greens spray.

Taryn arrived on the scheduled day in the early am. She watched Bill load the spray tank, took note of where it was loaded, checked the labels of the products he was adding to the tank and made sure he was triple rinsing his containers. Once Bill had the tank loaded, Taryn followed him in a cart and watched the actual application. “It was actually very laid back” commented Bill. She was there for the whole thing including the rinsing of the tank. “When I was done spraying, she checked my record keeping and made some recommendations to simplify my postings on the first and tenth tees as well as the pro shop.” Taryn also looked at his pesticide building which had been brought up to date by the previous Superintendent Mike Hermanson. “To be honest, I feared a bully but she was very nice!” In the end Taryn had a couple of recommendations but there were no violations. “It was really a pleasant experience” said Bill.

Having gotten Bill’s take on the visit I wanted to talk to Taryn on her experiences with golf courses and get an idea for what her department is looking for. I had contacted

Taryn but she wanted to run it by her Department officials to make sure it was ok to give out information. She told me I would be contacted by them and that we could proceed from there. A couple of weeks went by and much to my surprise she followed up with me to see if I had been contacted. When I told her I hadn’t she got the ball rolling with management and we were able to conduct the telephone interview.

Taryn explained that for the most part golf courses are up to date on all of the regulatory requirements. Taryn’s department is making sure that Superintendents and their staffs are using “best management practices” and following “rules and regulations.” “Most of our visits are routine inspections” she said. “We want to make sure the application records are meeting requirements and that weather information is included with them. Other things such as Zone II requirements, sign posting and storage recommendations are part of our visit as well.” As was noted in Bill’s experience, Taryn wanted to say that during a visit they like to do a “use observation, mix and load and take a sample of a tank mix to be sure there is no cross contamination.” Taryn told me that this can tell them how well your tank is being rinsed at the end of each application.

Taryn noted that inspections should be viewed as “educational” more than anything and that the Bureau is not picking on anyone. There are more personnel now so there have been more inspections recently. “In most cases if there is an issue we will give the parties involved a chance to fix it and do a follow up to make sure the issue has been corrected.”

In closing Taryn encouraged people to reach out to her if they had any questions. “We want to work through something before it becomes an issue.” She also mentioned that license renewals are out and to get them in as soon as you can. Taryn can be reached at taryn.lascola@state.ma.us.

❖

GCSANE Slate of Candidates for 2015

As required by the Association's bylaws the members listed below have been submitted by the Nominating Committee for election at the Annual Meeting January 13, 2015.

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Nominating Committee

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Vice President	Dave Johnson	Wianno Club
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Education Chairman	Brian Skinner, CGCS	Bellvue Golf Club
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Visit website for details

Sports Turf Seminar

Tuesday, January 27 • 1pm-3:30pm
Constructing and Managing Skinned Areas on Ball Fields

Trade Show Hours

Tuesday, January 27 • 4:30pm-7:30pm
with reception
Wednesday, January 28 • 10am-5pm
Live Auction 4pm
Thursday, January 29 • 9am-1pm

Educational Session Hours

Tuesday, January 27 • 9am-11:30am *Sports Turf Session*
• 9am-4:30pm *USGA Session*
Trade Show and Reception
Wednesday, January 28 • 9am-11am & 2pm-4pm
Golf / Sports & Grounds / Equipment Technicians
Lawn Care & Landscape
Thursday, January 29 • 9am-11am *Golf / Lawn Care & Landscape*

Certification Credits

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Tuesday, Jan. 27th 3:45pm
Featured Speaker:
JOHN DENNIS
Emmy Award Winning Sports Broadcaster

Watch your mail for your
registration form or call (401)848-0004
or visit us online at www.TurfShow.com

Thoughts From Your Association Manager

Everyone who has applied for or completed the requirements to become a Certified Golf Course Superintendent (CGCS) knows Penny Mitchell, GCSAA's Senior Manager of Certification. She has been an integral part of the program for twenty-eight years and will be retiring February 5, 2015. If anyone had a question or needed to know the history of the certification program Penny was the person with the answer. Her knowledge and professional attitude will be missed. I don't know what Penny will do after her days at GCSAA, but she says she'll still be in our world through the avenue of social media.



Penny Mitchell

Thanks to Brian Skinner for hosting the December meeting at Bellevue Golf Club. Kevin Doyle, GCSAA Northeast Field Staff Representative was our guest speaker and went over the details of upcoming proposals and possible changes to GCSAA programs. I encourage anyone who has a question about what the GCSAA is doing and would like to offer comments or exchange thoughts with Kevin, to contact him at 816-807-3103 or at kdoyle@gcsaa.org.

This is an article about the late Dave Heroian that appeared in The Salem News and was written by Gary Larrabee, long time follower of golf, particularly on the North Shore, who has written many articles featuring golf course superintendents. Many knew Dave Heroian and I thought those who did would love the way he was remembered. Those who didn't will now know more about this delightful person.



Heroian remembered as the consummate professional at Myopia Hunt Club

By Gary Larrabee Special To The Salem News

David Heroian went about his work as course superintendent at hallowed Myopia Hunt Club in Hamilton with an unassuming nature. He never looked for attention, nor for accolades during his 27-year tenure.

But as the course gained renewed national attention with its appearance the last two decades on all the prominent 'top 100' lists published by the leading golf magazines, anyone connected to Myopia knew exactly who was responsible: Heroian and his loyal grounds crew.

"David delivered the best course conditions in club history," said Bill Safrin, who is completing his 35th year as MHC's head golf professional. "He was a tireless, dedicated and admired course superintendent. His courage and will to live was an inspiration to us all."

Heroian, an Auburn native and long-time Ipswich resident since coming to Myopia, died Oct. 29 after a courageous seven-year battle with multiple myeloma. He was 56.

He had amazed friends, family and Myopia family with his perseverance and commitment to beating the disease during these difficult years.

David had shown remarkable resilience while taking treatment at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and at Brigham and Women's Hospital, missing little work time at Myopia. But when his illness took a stronger hold in 2013, Myopia asked David to remain as an advisor and superintendent emeritus after they hired Jonathan Wilber for the 2014 season from National Golf Links of America on Long Island.

"David was not only the ultimate professional who gave his working life to Myopia and transformed the golf course to great acclaim," says Myopia President Chris Wells, "but he also was a real gentleman, one who never wanted to talk about himself, never wanted any attention directed at him."

Added Nick Cutler, Myopia's chairman of golf and grounds, "We had a great layout when David was hired in the mid-1980s. But he and his staff took the golf course, especially the greens, to a new level of conditioning during his years in charge. I called them 'Heroian Greens.' He loved the land and let the course condition speak for itself."

During Heroian's years in charge, the club -- designed by Herbert Leeds and opened in 1894 -- hosted two Massachusetts Amateur championships.

Equally significant, Heroian's marvelous work caught the eyes of the United States Golf Association -- in particular then-executive director (and St. John's Prep graduate) David Fay. On more than one occasion, Fay made overtures to the Myopia leadership in regards to bringing a USGA championship to Myopia for the first time since 1908, the year the club hosted its fourth and last U.S. Open. But the club and the USGA have never been able to come to an agreement.

Those overtures in and of themselves were the highest compliment Heroian could receive. But he received an equally high accolade on Sunday of Labor Day weekend, the final day of Myopia's annual Fourball championship. An idea initiated by Wells and Cutler, Heroian became the first non-member to receive The Captain's Medal at the tournament's closing ceremony. The highest honor given by the club for one's contributions to the Myopia golf program, The Captain's Medal was a fitting way to salute Heroian's exceptional service to Myopia.

"We, the membership, were honored to recognize David for all he has done for Myopia," Wells said. "It's the least we could do after all his years of devotion to our club."

"This presentation was our way of saying thanks," added Cutler, "and to tell David how much he has meant to us here at Myopia for all these years."

No question a bittersweet moment for all involved, but one, Cutler noted, that held great meaning, especially to Heroian.

Heroian leaves a profound legacy to Myopia and the North Shore golf community; a member of an elite group of men who have brought great honor to some of our finest courses. That includes Salem superintendent Kip Tyler and colleagues Peter Hasak of Tedesco, John Eggleston of Kernwood, Eric Richardson of Essex and John Sadowski of Turner Hill, among others.

Gary Larrabee, a former 25-year member of The Salem News sports staff, has been writing about golf on the North Shore for 45 years. His most recent publication is Sensation at Salem: The Legendary Babe Zaharias's Historic 1954 U.S. Open Victory. ❖

By Don Hearn

Kevin Doyle - GCSAA Updates



As the holiday season descends upon us, we often spend time with friends, colleagues and those we love. We reflect on times and events that made the year unique and happenings that we will remember for a long time. I ask you now to reflect on two topics that have been in these pages this past year, and what we might see if we put the two concepts together. I have previously written about that first taste of the golf industry. What got you hooked? I have also written about the "Joes" of our past, those special individuals that worked hard to raise the image of our chapters and our profession. Now with just a little spin I ask: Who got you hooked?

Do you recall your first day working at a golf course? Excited or intimidated as you walk into a situation that seemed to run like a machine. At some point along your journey, someone probably paid some extra attention to you. Recognized something in you that they knew might be special, some potential. Helped you **crawl** (probably cutting Poa out of greens), **walk** (mow....often), then watched you **run** (his or her crew) on your own with full responsibilities. Eventually, your mentor probably even helped you get your first head superintendent job, a position where you were now expected to lead a team on your own.

As you look back on the person who helped mold you into the turf professional and leader you are today, think about the opportunity you have to be that mentor to someone on your staff today and going forward. What did your mentor

see in you, is that fire and passion burning in someone on your staff? Are you doing all you can to empower someone who might be the future of our industry? What can you do to help them succeed? There is little doubt that golf course superintendents are spending more of their valuable time on people issues, and less time on the golf course. Is that taking away from your ability to act as a mentor for someone else? Does acting as a mentor help you be a better manager of your facility, or leader of your staff? I can't say for sure, but the actions inherent as a mentor should better develop your staff as professionals, and in doing so, make you a better leader in their eyes. Isn't that the goal of a leader and a mentor?

As the 2015 season is fast approaching, consider reaching out to your mentor. Let them know how much you appreciate the time they spent developing you as a turf professional. Discuss with them the steps you are taking to impart what you learned from them, onto a member of your staff today. Who knows, they might even offer a suggestion or two on how you could become a better mentor, like them!

I want to thank Tom Albert, Don Hearn, and the entire GCSA of New England Board of Directors for allowing me to submit information to *The Newsletter* for your reading pleasure. I hope you all have a great holiday season and a happy 2015 golf year!

continued on page 7

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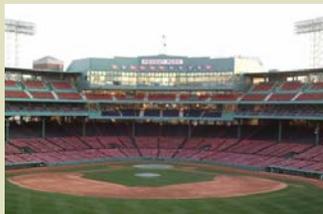
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GCSANE Annual Meeting January 13, 2015 - Fenway Park



The 2015 Annual Meeting will be held in the EMC Club at Fenway Park Tuesday, January 13, 2015 with a snow date of Thursday, January 15, 2015. Entry to the EMC Club is at 20 Yawkey Way. The EMC Club is up-stairs.

Schedule:

- 9:00 am - Board Meeting
- 10:00 am - Past Presidents Meeting
- 10:00 am - Registration and photos with Wally The Green Monster
- 11:00 am - Business Meeting and Election
- 12:00 pm - Buffet Lunch
- 1:00 pm - *Presentation by Steve Keating
- 2:00 pm - Monster Raffle
- 2:30 –3:00 pm - Optional Tour of Fenway Park

Cost: \$75 / Retired Member: \$50 (registration fees includes optional tour of Fenway)

Dress Code: Sport jacket, collared shirt, slacks

*Steve Keating will present a dynamic talk titled “360 Degree Leadership.” Steve has made many presentations to golf course superintendents and others in our business.

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Golf Industry Show general registration open

Be sure to spread the word that general registration is now open for the 2015 Golf Industry Show, Feb. 21-26 in San Antonio. Visit the new website for details on education opportunities, the trade show, events and attendee resources.

[New Golf Industry Show website launched](#)

GCSAA Golf Championships registration closes Jan. 9, 2015.

The 2015 GCSAA Golf Championships, presented in partnership with the Toro Company is returning to Texas for the first time in over 10 years. The beloved members-only event headquartered at the JW Marriott San Antonio Hill Country Resort & Spa will feature some of the best courses the Texas Hill Country has to offer.

This Saturday through Monday schedule, Feb. 21-23, offers four different events over the three days. Are you a casual golfer looking for a good time or an intense competitor hoping to be crowned National Champion? You can choose to play one, two or all three days. The GCSAA Golf Championships offer something for everyone.

When you're not on the course, take advantage of the more than 24 hours worth of networking opportunities with some of the greatest minds in the golf course management industry. Learn new techniques, best practices and build life-long relationships. These opportunities are filling up, don't get left out!

Upcoming FREE webcasts:

- [Jan. 8: Calibrating Your Sprayer and Selecting the Right Nozzles](#)
- [Jan. 21: Irrigation: Science, Art and Measuring for Success](#)
- [Feb. 4: How True Are Your Putting Greens?](#)
- [Feb. 5: Talk Better, Listen Better](#)
- [Feb. 12: Grow Your Own! The Value in Veggies - Establishing a golf course vegetable garden](#)

Again, if I can be of any assistance, please feel free to contact me. ❖

Kevin Doyle

GCSAA Field Staff kdoyle@gcsaa.org



Save the Date: April 20th, 2015
The 11th Annual Joseph Troll Turf Classic
TPC River Highlands Golf Club, Cromwell, CT
Tom DeGrandi Hosting
Honoring Dr. William Dest, Professor Emeritus University of Connecticut



TPC River Highlands is a private golf club located in Cromwell, Connecticut, which is a part of the Tournament Players Club network operated by the PGA Tour. The club was founded in 1928 as Middletown Golf Club and became Edgewood Country Club in 1934. In the early 1980s it was bought by the PGA Tour. The golf course was redesigned to TPC standards by renowned golf course architect Pete Dye, and reopened as the "TPC of Connecticut" in 1984. The course underwent further remodeling in 1989, this time by Bobby Weed in consultation with tour pros Howard Twitty and Roger Maltbie, and renamed the "TPC at River Highlands".



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10 Morning Habits Successful People Swear By

I know there are very few of you who will be able to, or even want to, embrace all of the habits listed here, but there might be one or two that you'll give some thought to. Even if there's only one you adopt, it could make a positive difference in your daily routine.

Up and at 'em! Morning people are successful people. Just ask any CEO, professional athlete, golf course superintendent or inventor out there – they all start their day at the crack of dawn. Studies prove that willpower is the strongest in the morning before exhaustion and other priorities get in your way. Adopt a morning ritual and you will start to see BIG results. So hold off hitting that snooze button (other than on a day off, very few during the season, most superintendents don't know where the snooze button is) and read up on some tips to guarantee a more productive future!

1. Get Up An Hour Early:

There is a 25th hour in the day. You've just been sleeping through it. Getting up an hour earlier is going to take time to adjust to, but once you make it a habit, you will never look back. Research has shown, not only are early risers more optimistic and conscientious, they also anticipate problems and minimize them more efficiently. Which of course is crucial to success in the golf world.

2. Visualize!

Early hours foster reflection. Enjoy the quiet and take some time to map out your day. Think through your goals and to-dos. Most of us drive to work thinking about executing the plan we developed the day before. It's a good idea, even though the plan has been developed, to arrive early at the course. Many times there will be a message that someone won't be in, the irrigation system didn't operate as planned, vandals have been at work, and other things might come up that can ruin your day. So developing a plan with contingencies is always a good idea.

3. Eat Breakfast:

Time is a luxury, enjoy it and feed yourself a wholesome breakfast. Sit down with your family and enjoy a hearty bowl of oatmeal. I know, not many families will be at the breakfast table at 4:00 in the morning, but you should still fuel your body for the tasks that lay ahead of you. It will help you maintain a steady focus throughout the day.

4. Say Bye-Bye To THAT One Big Task:

Reprioritize your to-do list, placing the most dreaded task at the top of your list. Instead of letting it loom over you all day save yourself the agony and stress and get it done first thing. You will feel a sense of relief and be more ready and willing to tackle any trivial task that follows. Besides, the morning is the time when you typically have the most energy and feel the most rested.

5. Motivational Mantra:

Step One - Dig deep and find out what inspires you. Step Two - Create a mantra. Step Three – Repeat that same saying to yourself every morning. Step Four – Breathe and relax. You will feel more motivated and focused than ever before.

6. Get Moving:

Morning workouts not only give you a boost of energy, they pump you up, ensuring your senses are up and running. You'll feel ready to tackle any problem that comes your way. Studies have shown that people are less likely to come up with excuses early in the morning.

7. Pack Snacks!

Eating fuels your brain, improving focus, productivity and memory. Plan your snacks ahead of time and drop some bars into your bag. Smart snacking is critical for keeping your metabolism going and your brain working at full capacity through your busy day.

8. Toss It!

Learn to let go of the things that are cluttering your life. It's one thing to try to clear your mind, but sometimes you have to physically toss something to feel lighter. So get rid of something – old magazines, junk mail, apps on your phone, old receipts or papers and watch how your attitude changes throughout the day. Our lives get cluttered so easily, but they can become uncluttered just as fast.

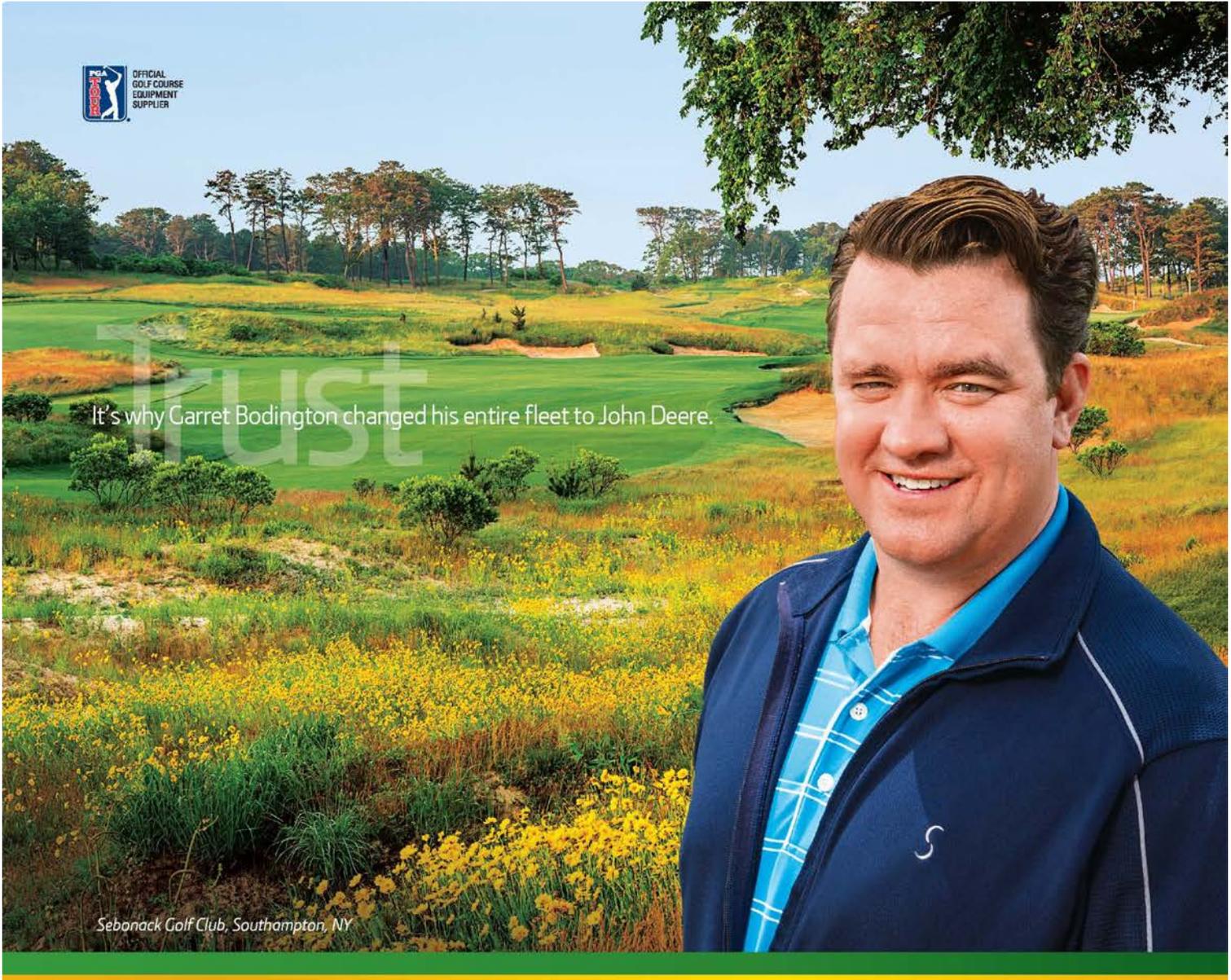
9. Go To Bed Early:

If you want to watch one more episode on Netflix think again. Getting the proper amount of sleep is critical to not only your mental health and creativity but to weight control. When your biorhythms are off it wreaks havoc on your entire system. Getting the proper sleep your body needs sets you up for success in everything else you want to achieve. So rest up, you have much to accomplish tomorrow!

10. Silence:

Waking up early offers you opportunities that few get to enjoy – watch the sun rise, hear the sound of birds chirping, and just be still. We are always on the move. Sit and enjoy the morning calm. It's a brief time where you can be alone with your thoughts. Drive to your favorite spot on the course. Just breathe. ❖

By Don Hearn



It's why Garret Bodington changed his entire fleet to John Deere.

Sebonack Golf Club, Southampton, NY

With the US Women's Open coming to Sebonack in 2013, Garret Bodington made the decision to go with John Deere. Why? "John Deere gave us tremendous support for the Women's Open, from existing equipment to loaners. Also, the E-Cut™ Hybrid technology was a big selling point. We use E-Cuts on every fairway and every green." From E-Cut Hybrid technology to heavy-duty utility vehicles, Garret trusts his entire course to John Deere. To see the difference we can make on your course and call your John Deere Golf distributor today.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome New Member:

- **Steve Boucini**, Affiliate, ezLocator
- **ezLocator**, Friend

Our condolences are extended to Greg and Beth Cormier and family on the passing of Beth's father on December 16, 2015.

Nor'Easter Ski Day 2015

The Nor'easter Ski Committee has things up and ready to go for the 2015 Nor'easter Ski Day on March 5th at Killington Ski Resort. All the information and registration links can be found on the front page of the VTGCSA's webpage at <http://www.vtgcsa.com/>. You can register anytime starting now!

There are rooms available at several locations at Killington, so make sure you lock in a room before they're all taken. Space is on a first come basis and certain room blocks will be released after February 6th. Last year we had over 100 participants and we're sure to grow from there.

We hope that everyone has a safe holiday season and we hope to see you in a few months at Killington Resort!!

The Nor'easter Ski Committee:

Ken Lallier
Kevin Komer
Chris Strong
John Bresnahan
Brian Goudey
Fred Montgomery
Chris Cowan
Andy Drohen

METGCSA Tournament News:

On behalf of the METGCSA, the board met this past week and would like to let all those that participated in this year's event that the funds raised this year will go to support the families of Rick Nack, most recently with Valley Green and Dave Heroian who was the superintendent of Myopia Hunt Club. Rick has served in every capacity imaginable in our industry, from golf course superintendent to sales representative and was well liked by all that met him. Rick is survived by his wife Cindy and son Mason. Rick was 57 years old. Dave was the superintendent at Myopia Hunt Club for the past 27 years, starting in 1987 and was universally admired and respected by members and employees alike. Dave is survived by his wife Gail of 22 years and their two sons, Adam and Alexander. Dave was 56 years old. Sadly, both Dave and Rick lost battles to cancer this fall at young ages.

Outgoing METGCSA president Blake Halderman and incoming president Glen Dube, along with the entire golf industry community would like to express our condolences to Rick's and Dave's families. The METGCSA will be sending their families checks in the amount of \$1,100 each, which was raised from this year's MET Team Championship at Philadelphia CC. We would like to thank all those that donated, sponsored and continue to support those in our close knit industry.

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.



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