



The Sand Blaster



VOL. XXIV, ISSUE III

MAY/JUNE 2017

DEDICATED TO MANAGING GOLF COURSES ... from the ground up

Educating the Regulators

By Rick Lawlor, CGCS

The Town of Yarmouth - Golf Division acquired a new MA DEP WMA Permit effective May 1, 2107. This brought their annual permitted draw from 44 MGA up to 65 MGA; mind you this permit amount includes 45 golf holes and driving range which cover more than 200 acres of land. Besides the usual permit legal requirements, the DEP assigned two significant mitigation measures:

Within 8 years, the Town of Yarmouth must become a completely certified Audubon International Cooperative Sanctuary Golf Course. Within the first year, the Town of Yarmouth must conduct a complete annual evaluation of the wildlife in and around Laban's Pond, located on the Bass River GC, and implement a continuous monthly monitoring program of its water quality.

These are some pretty hefty conditions for a cash strapped operation, but the town must find a way to comply. They also must find a way to educate the regulators.

The Town of Yarmouth has been utilizing reclaimed effluent water from a regional septic treatment plant since 1997. The MA DEP Discharge Permit allowed for golf irrigation use on 7 of the 27 holes at Bayberry Hills GC. In 2007 the town started exploring the expanded use of this treated effluent discharge for all 27 holes. It was not a well received amendment request because BHGC is on a Zone II Wellhead Recharge Area.

However, with expanding concern for wastewater on Cape Cod, coupled with the physical need to increase septic treatment capacities and thereby necessarily increasing the volume of treated effluent for discharge, MA DEP is close to considering the amendment request. Hell, they're even studying the possibility of delivering it across town to the BRGC.

What changed? Two things: they needed to learn about the value of grass as a water filtration plant; they needed to deal with an increasing waste problem. They needed to get educated. In Yarmouth the existing treatment plant has already increased its effluent production and there is a second treatment plant construction on the "things to do" list.

In the last ten years of dealing extensively with the regulators of pollution, pesticides, fertilizers and water I've learned that the scientific knowledge of our business decreases from the regulators to the legislators to the general public. I've learned that when you use the word "education" people are more open to discussion about sensitive subjects. I've learned that you must be patient and not pushy, because the toughest part of our job is overcoming misperceptions about golf courses impact on the environment. And, most importantly, the regulators do not move quickly.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: The Sand Blaster is produced bi-monthly as an informational service to its members. Printed material does not suggest the views, attitudes or recommended practices of GCSACC, the board members or its associated committees. Industry-related articles are always welcome to be considered for publication. Articles, as well as address and/or position changes, may be sent to Julie Heston at 401-934-9901 (fax) or jheston@verizon.net.



President's Message

It seems like we have seen a little bit of everything in these past few weeks at the golf course. We started out slow with some colder than usual weather only to be followed by near record heat and then the rain. Can we get through just one weekend without the rain? It's bound to change soon enough and then we will be challenged by other circumstances.



Recently, the association held its annual Scholarship and Research Tournament at Cummaquid Golf Club. Unfortunately the weather did not cooperate and the tournament was cancelled after just a few holes. That was a shame because Dana Hancock and his staff had the golf course in excellent condition. For those that stayed, we had a nice raffle and a great meal to round out the event. As always, a giant thanks goes out to Joe Felicetti for organizing the event and to all of those that donated for the good of the association.

Our next event will be the Rho-Cod Cup to be held at Allendale Country Club and hosted by the Rhode Island Association. I hope we have a good turnout and look forward to seeing all of you there. Also, we have a nice slate of events to finish out the year but our 50th anniversary meeting to be held in September at New Seabury will be extra special. We have some nice gifts planned for all those in attendance so try to set the day aside now so that it is possible for you to attend.

Lastly, we all know the tougher weather will be upon us shortly. Try to set some time aside from your course to attend a meeting. Hopefully the summer will be kind to us all.

Regards,

Brian

P.S. As your president, in the interest of transparency and for the good of the association, if you as the membership deem it necessary, I would semi-reluctantly release my 2016 income taxes.

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"INSIDE THE LEATHER"

- **Welcome New Members:**

David Howland Porter, Superintendent Member,
River Bend CC

Thomas Hoffer, Associate, Northeast Golf & Turf Supply

- Our condolences are extended to Paul Heher and family on the passing of Paul's father, John (Jack) Heher, on May 4, 2017.
- We are looking for photos of our member's courses for the website. If you would like to have your photo on the website, please email them to Julie at jheston@verizon.net.
- If your club or company has been recognized or awarded a distinction, please send us an email at jheston@verizon.net or seyman60@gmail.com. We will mention it in an upcoming edition of *The Sand Blaster*.
- Just a reminder that you can obtain a USGA GHIN number through GCSACC. There is no fee for this. Please contact Julie Heston if you are interested.
- The GCSACC Board is looking for volunteers to help the board with tasks and serve on committees. If you are interested, please contact Brian Smoot at briansmoot32@yahoo.com
- GCSACC needs a Grass Roots Ambassador to help educate the legislatures. GCSAA 50 States by 2020: GCSANE and GCSACC MA BMP held the first meeting of the editors and started populating the template; reviewed the definitions of committee roles; set priorities and deadlines; identified some outside financial resources; discussed the need for consultants. Water is our section for MA as the state is in the midst of the extensive 20 Year Renewal Process. We will start with the section on Irrigation and consulting with a designer. Want to help, contact me.
- Economic Impact Study: GCSACC is coordinating with Daniel Lass, U MA, to complete the survey this summer and publish in the fall. We'll be in touch.

A Note of Thanks...

TGC at Sacconnesset was honored to host the 108th Massachusetts Open back on Cape Cod after more than 30 years. Thanks to a very supportive membership, the MGA, the great team at TGC and few individuals the tournament was a tremendous success.

My sincere gratitude goes to the following volunteers:

Dave Beauvais with TPC

Gregg Mackintosh with Atlantic Golf & Turf

Chris Blanchard and John Robinson with The Cape Club

John Perkoski

Garrett Bird

Thank you guys for your time and effort!

Stoyan Mubov

GC Superintendent, TGC at Sacconnesset

GCSACC Player of the Year results as of the April meeting

**Updated results will be posted on the website under the "Events" tab*

Net:

Ed Gianni 100

Kurt Calderwood 100

Ed Downing 90

Frank Hancock 90

Joe Deely 80

Garrett Whitney 80

Bob Kingsbury 70

David Stott 70

Gross

Ed Gianni 100

Kurt Calderwood 100

Rene Vadenboncoeur 90

James Dion 90

Joe Deely 80

Garrett Whitney 80

Alden Tallman 70

Stuart Tallman 70

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Blast from the Past

Since GCSACC is turning 50 this year, we will be highlighting articles from past newsletters in each issue of The Sand Blaster.

GCSACC Scholarship and Research Tournament 2012 ~ Hyannisport Club



May/June 2012

Blast from the Past

Since GCSACC is turning 50 this year, we will be highlighting articles from past newsletters in each issue of The Sand Blaster.

GCMACC SCOREBOARD 2002

Free-B-Que Holly Ridge Golf Club, Sandwich, MA August 15, 2002 Al Comeau, Host Superintendent

1st Gross:	Bob Matthews, Matt Crowther, Dwight Wiggin, Chris Tufts	110
2nd Gross:	Al Comeau, Paul Heher, Joe Goulart, George Wise	98
1st Net:	Eric Newell, Brian Shuler, Dave Vetelino, Greg Howell	97
2nd Net:	Greg Pinto, Dan Stone, Bill Rockwell, Jeff Stouffer	99

Closest to the Pin:

# 1 Mark Egan 10' 6"	# 3 Dave Vetelino 4' 1"	# 5 Mark Williams 33"
# 7 Dan Stone 11"	# 9 Mark Williams 13' 6"	#11 Marvin Armstrong 1' 7"
#13 Dan Stone 5"	#15 Joe Goulart 6' 6"	#17 Paul Heher 32"

Money Hole # 10 raised \$250. Half to Walter Lewis, half to S&R.



Olde Barnstable Fairgrounds G.C. Marstons Mills, MA Bruce McIntyre, Host Superintendent

Individual Quota winners:

Jeff Stouffer	Andy Drohen
Frank "its the first time ever" Santos	Darin Eddy
Dave Farina	Tom Colombo
Steve Mann	Mark Egan
Al "from Comeau Canada" Comeau	



Closest to the Pin winners:

Joe Felicetti
Jeff Carlson
Dwight Wiggin

Long Drive:
Joe Deely



September/October 2002

One Cape Summit

By: Ed Nash

While you are all working hard to keep your golf courses looking good this summer, I have been attending yet another watershed meeting.

Senator Warren, Selectmen, County Commissioners, E.P.A, D.E.P., the Nature Conservancy and so many of the people that are concerned about our environment, housing and infrastructure commented or spoke at this two day conference.

New technologies and innovative ideas are being implemented as we speak. Construction and monitoring of these projects will go on long beyond our lifetimes. You might want to steer your children and grandchildren towards careers in the environmental industries.

Towns are now working together on shared watershed projects. Harwich, Brewster, Chatham and Orleans have moved ahead together to clean up Pleasant Bay. They could be the first watershed group to get permits from the DEP to act as a watershed. Other towns will follow their model in the future.

Finding funding sources to help pay for planning, sewers, housing and monitoring will be the Cape's greatest challenge.

What you and I do now is really not as much for us as it really is for future generations.

Let us all continue doing the right things to keep the Cape a great place to live and work.

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John O'Connell Scholarship and Research Tournament



John O'Connell Scholarship and Research Tournament





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Golf Course Superintendents Association of Cape Cod
30th Annual John O'Connell Scholarship and Research Tournament

Cummaquid Golf Club Host: Dana Hancock

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The 2017 UMass Turf Research Field Day

Date: Wednesday, July 26, 2017

Location: UMass Joseph Troll Turf Research Center, South Deerfield, MA

Join the UMass Turf Team for a morning of education and insight... on our turf! Field Day is the biennial 'open house' at the UMass Joseph Troll Turf Research Center. Take a short break from your busy schedule and get the latest on current research at UMass:

- Take a guided research tour with presentations and demos
- Hear about and see projects in the field
- Talk turf with UMass faculty and staff
- Network with colleagues
- Meet with industry exhibitors
- Enjoy continental breakfast and an All American Barbecue lunch

For complete program information, research presentation topics and attendee and exhibitor registration, visit ag.umass.edu/events/fieldday17

Interested in being an exhibitor at Field Day? Multiple packages are available to make what your company has to offer a part of Field Day and support the UMass Turf Program. Visit the link above for details or contact us.

Questions? E-mail fieldday@umassturf.org, call Jason Lanier at 413-545-2965 or Mary Owen at 508-892-0382.





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Kevin's GCSAA Corner

By Kevin Doyle, GCSAA Northeast Field Representative

In my travels around the Northeast and throughout the country, I've noted that the status of the golf industry continues to be a hotbed topic of conversation. As an industry we are continually addressing issues related to the environment, player growth, agronomic practices, regulatory pressures and many others, but we have always been united in our support of outreach and education. Our commitment is evident in countless community and national programs, and strengthened immeasurably by the involvement of every golf professional, facility and allied organization.

The success of the 2017 National Golf Day exemplifies the value of collaboration within our industry and the progress that can be achieved by working together. While this massive undertaking every year encompasses all the allied groups we are most familiar with: CMAA, GCSAA, NGCOA, PGA TOUR, The PGA of America, USGA, U.S Golf Manufacturers Council and the World Golf Foundation, it is important to understand that they are not the only ones benefitting or advocating for our game and turfgrass management.

Below is a small collection of initiatives that too often fly under the radar but with further support, could be even more amazing and beneficial to all of us who love the game.

Wee One Foundation

The Wee One Foundation was founded in 2004, when friends of Wayne Otto, CGCS, banded together to financially assist him in his battle with cancer. Wayne was a pioneer in the turf industry, always searching for new and better ways to produce a finer playing surface. As Wayne learned more about his disease, he applied those same pioneering principles to overcome his illness.

Through the perseverance and hard work of several of Wayne's friends, a mission was developed to help those in need. Founded on the principle of assisting golf course management professionals (or their dependents) who incur overwhelming expenses due to medical hardship or who are without comprehensive insurance or adequate financial resources, the Foundation has evolved into a cause that goes way beyond its initial reason for existence.

Since its inception, the Wee One Foundation has gifted over \$1,000,000 to those in need. The Foundation raises money through its membership, golf outings and sponsorships.

If you need help or know someone who does, visit the Foundation website at www.weeone.org

The First Green

The First Green is an innovative environmental education outreach program that uses golf courses as environmental learning labs. The program has extensive resources for golf course superintendents, including online lesson plans, and facilitates connections between golf courses and local schools and science/horticulture teachers.

Golf superintendents, course staff and/or local industry representatives (such as regional associations and members) host students on field trips, where they test water quality, collect soil samples, identify plants, preserve wildlife habitats, assist in stream-bed restoration and learn about the ecology, conservation and environmental aspects of golf courses. The kids also visit the practice green or hit balls at the driving range – giving them their first taste of the game.

First Green has been providing STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) learning labs since 1997. To learn more about The First Green, or to read about a 2013 field trip, visit The First Green (www.thefirstgreen.org) or the *Connecticut Clippings* newsletter (www.cagcs.com/pdf/ctclippings_june13.pdf).

Continued on next page

Project EverGreen

Project EverGreen is a national non-profit organization committed to creating a greener, cooler earth by supporting the creation, renovation and revitalization of managed recreational and athletic green spaces that result in healthier, happier people. Initiatives include GreenCare for Troops, SnowCare for Troops and “Healthy Turf. Healthy Kids.”

Project EverGreen’s GreenCare for Troops and SnowCare for Troops programs provide complimentary lawn and landscape services, and snow and ice removal services for the families of currently deployed military personnel, as well as post 9/11 disabled veterans with a service-connected disability.

Studies confirm there is significant value in having children spend time outdoors playing, and Project EverGreen’s “Healthy Turf. Healthy Kids.” has its sights set on restoring and revitalizing green spaces, including sports fields and parks, for children to play, exercise and connect.

To learn more about Project EverGreen and how you can participate, visit www.projectevergreen.org.

The Grass Roots Initiative

The U.S. National Arboretum’s Grass Roots Initiative is a four-year, in-depth look at the science behind this familiar, but often misunderstood, landscape plant.

The exhibit opened in October 2014 with 12 interactive displays, and two more were added the following year. Each section provides information about the uses of turfgrass, its importance to modern society, its history and best management practices for maintenance. Among the displays are a compact golf hole, sports fields, lawn areas with swards of six warm-season and four cool-season turfgrass species, more than 30 different ornamental grass species, and a rain garden showing the ability of grass to absorb water and nutrients.

To learn more about the National Arboretum’s turf display, visit www.usna.usda.gov/Education/turfgrass.

Please understand that this is not a plea to support each of the above initiatives. In some form or fashion, GCSAA already has a relationship with these groups, so you as members do too! This information is offered simply to keep you informed of the resources available to you and benefitting you.

Should you need help as you get started growing the game by hosting a local school, or working to benefit a local service member, just understand you are not alone. There are resources and people ready, able and quite willing to assist you in achieving your goal. Now you know who and how to ask!

GCSAA Resources and Deadlines *you Get Cool Stuff from your Association Already:*

GCSAA welcomes Bayer Environmental Science as presenting sponsor for Can Am Cup golf event

Bayer Environmental Science will be the presenting sponsor of the Can Am Cup, the upcoming Canada versus United States golf competition between golf course superintendents. The point-quota competition will be held in New Jersey, Oct. 22-24, at two championship golf clubs: Baltusrol Golf Club in Springfield and Canoe Brook Country Club in Summit. Registration will open online at 1 p.m. (Eastern), June 20, for members of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) and the Canadian Golf Superintendents Association (CGSA). Look for more information at www.thecanamcup.com. Space is limited and will be capped at 240 players. The participants, who will be paired according to USGA or Golf Canada official handicaps, will enjoy two rounds of golf and have the opportunity to earn education points.

Continued on next page

GCSAA Investigating Political Action Committee

GCSAA is exploring the launch of a political action committee in the fall of 2017. During 2016, government affairs staff presented the concept of a GCSAA PAC to the Government Affairs Committee, GCSAA Board of Directors and chapter delegates, and are now seeking feedback from the general membership on a GCSAA PAC. More information, and to view videos [follow this link](#). BE SURE TO PROVIDE YOUR FEEDBACK!

GCSAA partners with Columbia Sportswear for member discounts

GCSAA and Columbia Sportswear Company, an industry leader for outdoor apparel and products, have joined in a partnership to bring savings to association members and their facilities. Columbia is offering a 50 percent discount to GCSAA members on outdoor wear purchases. [Read more](#)

2018 Dog Days of Golf Calendar

Submissions for the 2018 Dog Days of Golf Calendar will be accepted through **Aug. 1, 2017**. From the submissions, 14 dogs will be selected. Owners of the selected dogs will be notified in September, and the calendar will be distributed with the November issue of *GCM* magazine.

Plan now to stop by the LebanonTurf booth at the [Golf Industry Show](#) in February to place your vote for the 2018 Dog of the Year. The winner's owner will receive a \$500 prize and \$3,000 for his or her GCSAA-affiliated chapter. A \$2,000 charitable donation will also be made by GCSAA and LebanonTurf in honor of the winner.

<http://www.gcsaa.org/dog-calendar/submit-dog-calendar-photo>

Upcoming FREE webcasts:

July 6

[Impacting Agronomic Practices on a Daily Basis from Your Shop](#) – *equipment management series*

Ed Nangle, Ph.D.

Aug. 3

[How Turf Fans Impact Putting Green Health](#)

David McCall, Ph.D.

Sept. 12

[First Green & Equipment Managers: Growing the Game](#) – *equipment management series*

Karen Armstead, Ph.D. and Cathy Relyea

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

Kevin Doyle

GCSAA Field Staff

kdoyle@gcsaa.org

Follow me on Twitter [@GCSAA_NE](#)

VISIT WWW.GCSACC.ORG

GET TO KNOW THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dana Hancock – Cummaquid Golf Club

Favorite movie: **Jeremiah Johnson**

Favorite music group: **Guns and Roses**

Favorite vacation spot: **Lovell, Maine**

Favorite sports team: **Patriots**

Favorite beverage: **Busch Light**

What are your hobbies other than golf? **Fishing, Boating**

Besides Cape area courses, what is your favorite course you have played? **Old Head Ireland**

Bucket list of a few courses you would like to play. **Pebble Beach**

How many states have you played golf in? **Seven**

If you knew you could only play one more round of golf, who would you choose to fill your foursome? **My 3 Kids**

Any pets: **New mixed breed shelter puppy in February**

Do they go to work with you? **Hopefully if he can learn to listen**

Any projects lined up for your course in the near future? **New bunker sand throughout**

Did Tom Brady have knowledge or have anything to do with the low psi in the footballs? **Who cares?**



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