



The Sand Blaster



VOL. XXIII, ISSUE I

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2011

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

President's Message

Dear fellow members,

As I begin my term as President, first and foremost I would like to thank all of you for your support. Thirteen years ago I joined the Association and now being President of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of Cape Cod, I am honored. During this time G.C.S.A.C.C. has shown me what a professional, supportive and above all what a welcoming Association we have today. As President, I will continue these fine attributes and have my main focus on the best interests of the Association.

On saying that and being an emigrant from Ireland to this terrific country, I would like to give a brief description of my past to present day. Playing golf, caddying, finding balls for pocket money and working summers at my local course, Co. Longford Golf Club were the foundation of my career to becoming a Golf Course Superintendent. In 1986, after being offered a job as a laborer to work on the construction of a golf course (Willowbend) I just could not wait to get to the "States." Within a couple of days after arriving, I met Mr. Bob St. Thomas and the principal owner Mr. Dan Hostetter somewhere at the site, which back then, I called the "forest" because there was nothing but trees. My relationship with Mr. Hostetter started then. He was a father figure earlier on and became a very close friend until he, unfortunately, passed away 18 months ago.

It was at Willowbend where I met many of you whom I still know today. I remember the days Chris Tufts, Joe Felicetti, Dwight Wigin, Billy Leveque and Jimmy Maddalena, as well as many others who are still in the business, were hired.

Upon completion of construction on the course, a lot of us were shipped to Brookside to start construction on that project. This is where I met Mr. Jack Nugnes. Jack was in charge of construction and the "grow-in" back then and taught me most of what I know today. It was also at Brookside where I met Stu Eyman and salesmen such as Mike Pajolek, Ron Tumiski and Mike Hannigan. Although there were good and bad days, it was fun and a great learning experience to see and be hands on during the construction and "grow-ins" of both courses.

Unfortunately both projects fell victim to the last economic downturn during the early 1990s. Brookside eventually closed and grew "wild". This was devastating to me and I was reluctant to seek future employment in the golf business. Then after about five years working for a home builder, the economy started to pickup. Mr. Hostetter called to see if I would be interested in "re-doing" Brookside with him. Although hesitant, I eventually took the job and to this day Brookside is my current place of employment. I live in Marstons Mills with my wife Margaret and my four daughters Nuala age 16, Claire 13, Anna 12 and Laura 11. We all love the Cape and would not trade living here even if it meant moving back to the "Old Country". Anyway I thought I would write all that as an introduction as to how I became a Golf Course Superintendent. Hopefully I didn't bore you and by the way this will be my longest President's message.

So going forward, wow, what a winter this has been. With record snowfall and almost two months of snow cover for some, we are all anxious to see how our turf has made it through winter. All I can say is, "it won't be long now and that everyone made it through winter just fine."



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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 401-934-4440 (fax) or jheston@verizon.net.



President's Message

Continued from page 1

The New England Regional Turfgrass Show is just around the corner and promises to be another great success. The dates are March 7th – 10th in Providence. I know I'll see some of you there, but if not maybe at the April 21st golf meeting at Brookside for our 2011 season opener. The frost better be out of the ground by then! Other sites for 2011 include The Golf Club of Cape Cod for our Scholarship & Research, that's a terrific venue and I'm sure when the time comes it will sell out fast. We also have The Harmon Club for our Free-B-Que followed by Eastward Ho! and Cranberry Valley. We are still working on some other sites and will keep you posted as we get the details. Hopefully you can make some if not all of our meetings this year.

On closing, I will look forward to the next two years as your President and please do not hesitate to call me or any member of the Board or "Julie" (the backbone of GCSACC) with questions or suggestions that may arise throughout the year.

Sincerely,

Joe

P.S. I can be reached at 774 930-2996 or cjdbrookside@aol.com



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"INSIDE THE LEATHER"

• ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Our condolences are extended to **The Petersen family** on the passing of **Jack Petersen** on February 17, 2011. Jack was a co-founder of Tom Irwin Inc.
- Our condolences are extended to **The Otte family** on the passing of **Pete Otte** who was a representative for Hunter Industries in Connecticut.
- Our condolences are extended to **Joe and Tara Felicetti** on the passing of Tara's father on January 1, 2011.
- If anyone is interested in having the Sand Blaster emailed to them instead of mailed, please contact Julie Heston at 1-866-442-6222 or jheston@verizon.net.
- Attention all members, would you like a chance to win a free meeting? Enter The Sandblaster newsletter article contest for a chance to a free meeting (excluding the Scholarship & Research Tournament). Just submit your article to Julie Heston jheston@verizon.net or Stuart Eyman seyman51@peoplepc.com. Your entry must be received by the first week of the Month, ex: for the May/June issue your entry would have to be submitted in the first week of May.

• DIRECTORY UPDATES:

New Email Addresses:

Dr. W. Michael Sullivan wmsullivan53@gmail.com

Ryan Walsh ryan_walsh1028@yahoo.com

Arnold Fonseca: afonseca65@comcast.net

Bob Perreault bobjenn4598@verizon.net

New Cell Phone Numbers:

Joe Farina – Tuckahoe Turf – 774-260-0093

Bill Rockwell - 508-360-1778

Ryan Walsh -508-245-4602

Mike Hannigan has joined Padula Brothers Inc. He will be working out their new Raynham, MA facility representing John Deere Commercial and Homeowner products to accounts in Southeastern Massachusetts, Cape Cod and the Islands.

Contact information is (508)-728-6745 phone, and deeremikeh@aol.com email.

GCSAA LAUNCHES IMPROVED, FREE, ONLINE JOB BOARD

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) has launched an enhanced, free, online job board to aid its members and golf facilities in the employment process. Free job posting for all facilities and employers, a benefit valued at \$300, is one of the new and improved features of the GCSAA Job Board that also include:

- Job search by category and GCSAA region
- Additional advanced job search options (state/province, facility type)
- Job summaries in job search results that link to more details
- Job alert e-mails based on search criteria
- Ability to post résumé
- Résumé search by category and GCSAA region
- Additional features implemented in March 2011

For more information contact:

Shari Koehler, GCSAA director of professional development, 800-472-7878

**Reminder that 2011 GCSACC
Membership Dues are due
on March 15, 2011.**

Please make checks payable to:

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VISIT

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Estimated Pesticide Use on Cape Cod for Vegetation Management

For consideration by the Barnstable Ad Hoc Vegetation Management Committee

Prepared by Hotze Wijnja, MDAR, January 2011

Objective: Provide an overview of the relative contributions from the most important land use categories to the total pesticide use for vegetation management on Cape Cod.

The overview presented here was determined based on land use data and typical pesticide use data for the various use patterns. This is not an exact determination of the pesticide use on Cape Cod. Comprehensive use data were only available for a few use categories, such as ROW management and mosquito control. Also for Cape Cod golf courses, use data were made available. For cranberry bogs, crop and regional specific estimates were used (see page 2). Estimates of pesticide use in the residential and commercial categories were made based on national use data and adjusted for regional characteristics using professional judgment (see page 2). Mosquito control data were included for comparison purposes since it is also a wide-area use pattern. Some minor use categories such as applications on school properties and athletic fields, and agriculture other than cranberry bogs were not included. The graph below shows the total use of pesticides (expressed in lbs of active ingredients) in various use patterns with the most significant contributions to the overall pesticide use.

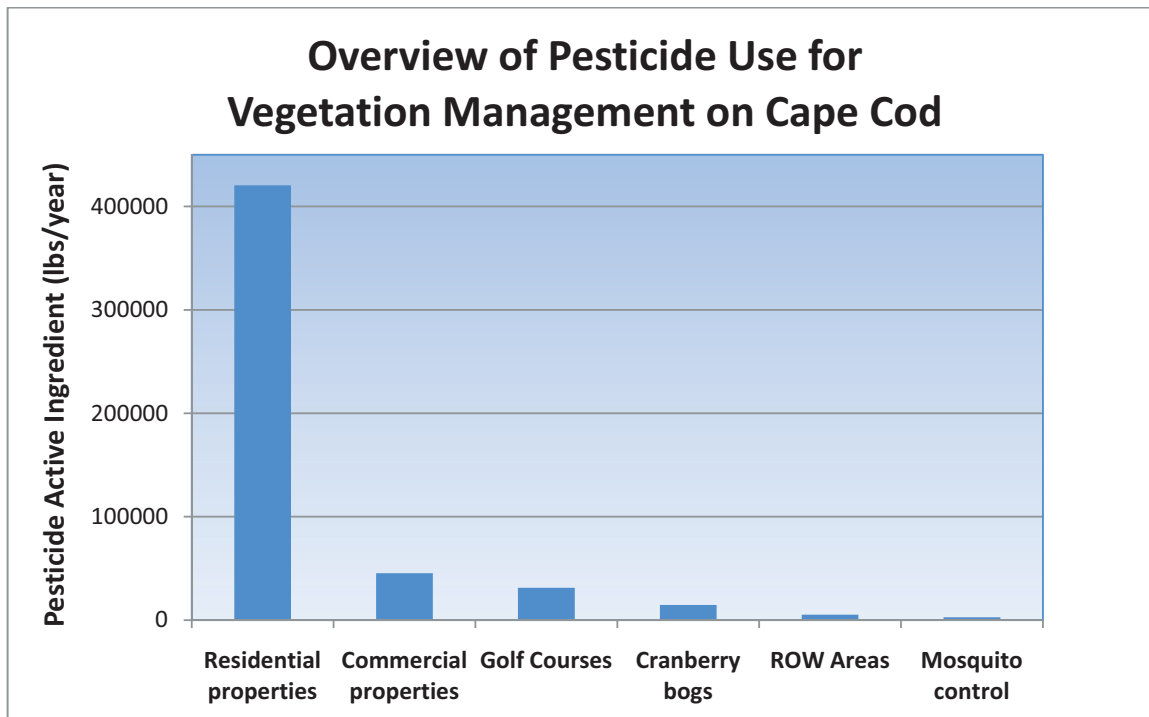


Figure 1 Overview of pesticide use for vegetation management on Cape Cod. Data were derived from land use data (see below) and estimates of typical average pesticide use data in the various use categories (see below). Pesticide (i.e., larvicide) use data for mosquito control data were taken from the 2010 report.

Disclaimer: This overview does not necessarily represent the exact pesticide use in the various use categories. Pesticide use estimates in certain categories was based on national use data. The main purpose is to show the relative contributions from the various land use categories.

The data for the graph displayed in Fig. 1 are presented in Table 1 below. Land use data were provided by the Cape Cod Commission.

Land Use	Area (acres)	Application Factor (lbs a.i./acre)	Amount of Pesticide Active Ingredients per Year (lbs)	Comments
Residential properties	103300	4.1	420431	See Footnote 1)
Commercial properties	9068	5	45340	See Footnote 2)
Golf Courses	3000	10.4	31200	See Footnote 3)
Cranberry bogs	1700	8.6	14620	See Footnote 4)
ROW Areas	6254	2.8	2814	See Footnote 5)

Footnotes:

- 1) Robbins and Birkenholtz (2003) indicate a typical total pesticide load of 8.14 lbs of active ingredients per season. For the analysis presented here, a conservative value of 50% of the reported value was used to account for residents that do not apply pesticides or use less than the typical amount.
- 2) Based on the value discussed above, a value of 5 lbs a.i./acre was used considering that commercial properties typically use less pesticides than homeowners for economic reasons.
- 3) The pesticide use data were provided for a Cape Cod golf club. This is representative of a golf course that is operated under an Integrated Golf Course Management Plan which is typical of most golf courses today.
- 4) This estimate is based on data published by Hilary Sandler from the UMass Cranberry Extension Station (Sandler, 2008).
- 5) This estimate is based on the average rates from applications done in 2008/2009 that were provided by NSTAR. The area was calculated based on the length of rights-of-way (258 miles) and a conservative value for the average width of the rights-of-way corridor of 200 feet. In addition, it was assumed that only one-third of the rights-of-way area would be treated in a given year.

References:

Robbins and Birkenholtz, 2003. Turfgrass revolution: Measuring the expansion of the American Lawn. *Land Use Policy*, 20:181-194

Sandler, H. 2008. Challenges in integrated pest management for MA cranberry production: A historical perspective to inform the future. *In: Crop Protection Research Advances* (Eds.: Burton and Williams), Nova Science Publishers, Inc.

Disclaimer: This overview does not necessarily represent the exact pesticide use in the various use categories. Pesticide use estimates in certain categories was based on national use data. The main purpose is to show the relative contributions from the various land use categories.

New GCSAA Chief Executive Officer

January 25, 2011

Dear GCSAA Members,

Just under a month ago I shared with you the outcomes of our 2011 plan and budget meeting, and highlighted some of the exciting programs and services that will be offered to enhance your chances of success and your facility.

Today, I am even more bullish on the future as I share with you the exciting news of the selection of **Rhett Evans** as our new chief executive officer.

As you might remember, Rhett has served as interim CEO since late June of 2010. He came to GCSAA in July 2009 as chief operating officer. Prior to joining GCSAA, he was the director of the parks, recreation and commercial facilities division for the Phoenix suburb of Mesa, Ariz., (population 490,000). He was elevated to that position in 2005, after serving as that city's convention center and amphitheatre director beginning in 2001.

While in Mesa, Rhett managed all program areas, including the convention center and amphitheatre; spring training baseball complex (Chicago Cubs); cemetery; recreation and aquatic complexes; and 2,600 acres of park space. Also under his watch were the operations of Dobson Ranch and Riverview golf courses. He oversaw a budget of \$32.5 million and a \$28 million capital budget.

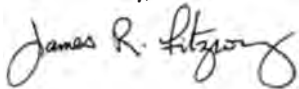
Along with those outstanding credentials, Rhett has performed admirably during his time at GCSAA, especially as the interim CEO. He exhibited solid leadership in implementing cost saving measures through more advantageous contracts in the areas of technology and convention and travel services; implementing headquarters building operational efficiencies; and staff reorganization. At the same time, GCSAA has improved member service through the creation of a member savings program; automated membership, registration and donation processes; new communications vehicles; an improved online job board; and the expansion of the field staff program.

The board of directors was intentionally deliberate in selecting a new CEO because of the changing environment of the golf industry. We enacted a process that included a board strategic planning session, extensive environmental scan of the industry, the utilization of an executive search firm, consultation with industry leaders and feedback from members. The process clearly revealed GCSAA's need to provide support for you and your facilities as you are being asked to do more with less.

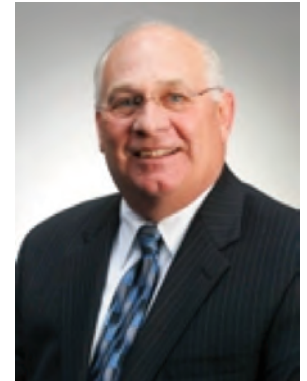
During our search, we identified many outstanding candidates and received valuable input and feedback. As we applied the criteria in narrowing the field, Rhett's name kept rising to the top. In the end, he was the obvious choice.

Please join me in congratulating Rhett. He and his wife Colleen, daughter Caitlyn and son Seth have been and will continue to be wonderful ambassadors of GCSAA.

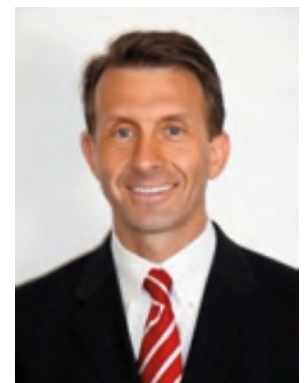
Sincerely,



Jim Fitzroy, CGCS
GCSAA President



James R. Fitzroy, CGCS
GCSAA President



Rhett Evans
GCSAA CEO

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1pm-5pm *Advanced Excel Training for Turf Managers*
1pm-5pm *Got Water? Water Conservation Issues in Turf*
1pm-5pm *CPR/AED Training*

Trade Show Hours

Tuesday, March 8 • 4:30pm-7:30pm *with reception*
Wednesday, March 9 • 10am-5pm *Live Auction 4pm*
Thursday, March 10 • 9am-1pm

Educational Session Hours

Tuesday, March 8 • 9am - 4:30pm
USGA Session & Keynote Speaker Mike Eruzione
Wednesday, March 9 • 9am-11am & 2pm-4pm
Golf / Sports Turf / Turf & Ornamental / Equipment Technicians
Thursday, March 10 • 9am-11am *Golf / Lawn Care & Landscape*

2011 Special Event

Dr. Joseph and Lonnie Troll Appreciation Dinner
Wednesday, March 9 • 7pm



Keynote Speaker
Tues., March 8 • 3:45pm
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Mike Eruzione

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Boca Rio superintendent to lead national golf association Randquist elected GCSAA president

Robert M. Randquist, CGCS, director of golf course and grounds at Boca Rio Golf Club in Boca Raton, Fla., was elected president of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) at the association's annual meeting Feb. 11.

The annual meeting was held in conjunction with the [GCSAA Education Conference](#) (Feb. 7-11) and [Golf Industry Show](#) (Feb. 9-10) in Orlando. A member dues increase of \$20 annually for Class A members and \$10 annually for Class C members also passed. Randquist will serve as president until the 2012 annual meeting and election.

Randquist is a 34-year GCSAA member, and has been at Boca Rio Golf Club since 1998. Previously, he was superintendent at Southern Hills Country Club in Tulsa, Okla., for 19 years, where he hosted the 1982 and 1994 PGA Championships, the inaugural 1987 USGA Women's Mid-Amateur Championship and the 1995 and 1996 PGA Tour Championships. Randquist has a bachelor's degree in metallurgical engineering from the University of Oklahoma. He serves on The Environmental Institute for Golf Board of Trustees, is a member Palm Beach GCSA, and a past president of the Oklahoma GCSA. Randquist is also a member of the Florida Turfgrass Association and the USGA Green Section committee.

Sanford G. Queen, CGCS, manager of golf operations for the city of Overland Park, Kan., was elected vice president. **Patrick R. Finlen**, CGCS, director of golf course maintenance operations at The Olympic Club in San Francisco, was elected secretary/treasurer.

Peter J. Grass, CGCS at Hilands Golf Club in Billings, Mont., **Keith A. Ihms**, CGCS at Country Club of Little Rock in Little Rock, Ark., and **John J. O'Keefe**, CGCS, director of golf course management at Preakness Hills Country Club in Wayne, N.J., were each re-elected to another two-year term. **Rafael Barajas**, CGCS at Hacienda Golf Club in La Habra Heights, Calif., was appointed to the GCSAA Board of Directors, filling the remaining year of Finlen's term, created by his election to secretary/treasurer.

William H. Maynard, CGCS at Milburn Golf and Country Club in Overland Park, Kan., remains on the board with one year remaining in his two-year director term. **James R. Fitzroy**, CGCS, director/superintendent at Wollaston Recreational Facility/Presidents Golf Club in North Quincy, Mass., will serve on the board for one year as immediate past president. **Mark D. Kuhns**, CGCS, director of grounds at Baltusrol Golf Club in Springfield, N.J., retires from the board after serving the last year as immediate past president.



Robert M. Randquist, CGCS
GCSAA President

Winter Family Day

The first annual Winter Family Day event, organized by Mike Pajolek was a great success. About twenty-five to thirty people saw The Cape Cod Cubs Hockey Team defeat The New England Stars 4-3 at the beautiful Hyannis Youth Community Center.

Refreshments of pizza, cupcakes, with GCSACC written on them by Claire Deely, and other delicious goodies were served to the celebrating crowd.

We thank Mike Pajolek very much for organizing this event.



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