John O'Neill

John O'Neill Named Green Section Chairman

USGA President Trey Holland recently appointed John O'Neill to the position of Chairman of the Green Section Committee. A member of the USGA's Executive Committee since 1998, he replaces Joe England, who stepped down after a four-year stint as Green Section chairman and member of the USGA Executive Committee.

John is no stranger to golf. Before joining the USGA Executive Committee, he actively participated on a number of different boards and committees through all facets of the game. He has volunteered as a board member at Montclair Golf Club (N.J.), served a five-year term on the Metropolitan (N.Y.) Golf Association Executive Committee, and was an original member of the MGA Foundation Executive Committee. John also started a junior golf program that produced two New Jersey state champions. He has served as green chairman at Montclair Golf Club and Westhampton C.C. (N.Y.). Currently, he volunteers as the green and golf chairman at Old Marsh Golf Club in Florida.

In his new position, John will provide guidance to the Green Section's many activities, including its Turf Advisory Service, the Turfgrass and Environmental Research program, and the Green Section's environmental programs. He also will serve the USGA as chairman of the Green Section's Turfgrass and Environmental Research Committee and the Green Section Award Committee.

Sincere thanks and best wishes are extended to Joe England, whose tenure oversaw the expansion of the USGA Turfgrass and Environmental Research Program. Joe has volunteered to continue to serve as a member of the USGA Green Section Committee.

Green Section Internships Awarded for 2000

For the fourth year, the USGA Green Section has awarded internships to outstanding turfgrass management students. During 2000, the Green Section will provide the opportunity for 14 students to travel with the Green Section staff on Turf Advisory Service visits. Each intern will travel for one week with an agronomist in his region between the months of May and August. The goal of the internship program is to provide students with a broader view of the golf course industry and the opportunity to learn about golf course maintenance through the perspective of the Green Section agronomists. More information about each intern can be found on the USGA Green Section website at: www.usga.org/green.

Intern	Year in School	School	Advisor
Stacy Bonos	Ph.D. Candidate	Rutgers U.	Dr. Jim Murphy
Doug Bottamiller	Junior	U. of Maryland	Dr. Mark Carroll
Chad Casey	Senior	Mississippi State U.	Dr. Mike Goatley
Greg Chevalier	Senior	U. of Florida	Dr. Grady Miller
Patrick Christoffer	Senior	Washington State U.	Dr. Bill Johnston
David Dudones	M.S. Candidate	Cornell U.	Dr. Frank Rossi
James Goodrich	Senior	Kansas State U.	Dr. Jack Fry
David Karp	Junior	Cal. Polytech U.	Dr. David Green
Brian McDonald	Senior	Oregon State U.	Prof. Tom Cook
Gerald Morris	Senior	Michigan State U.	Dr. Jim Crum
Chris Stiegler	M.S. Candidate	Oklahoma State U.	Dr. Greg Bell
Nicholas Strehle	Senior	Purdue U.	Dr. Clark Throssell
Walter Thomas	Junior	N.C. State U.	Dr. Charles Peacock
Phillip White	Junior	Del. Valley College	Dr. Doug Linde

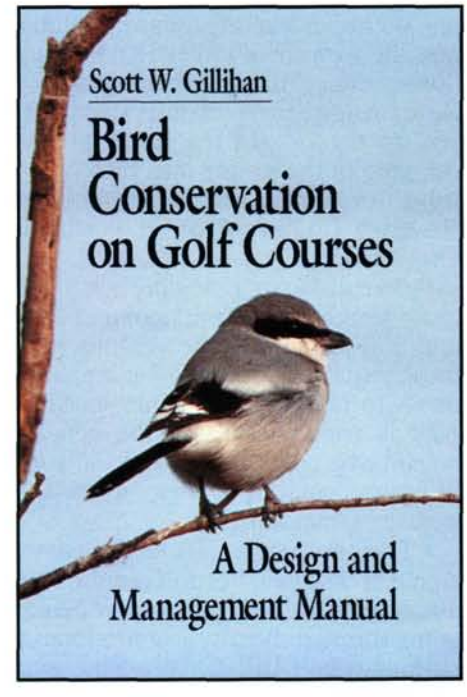
New Book Available Through Wildlife Links Program

Bird Conservation on Golf Courses, by Scott Gillihan of the Colorado Bird Observatory, is now available for purchase.

This hands-on manual for design and managing golf courses to benefit birds was the first project to receive a grant through the Wildlife Links Research Program. It grew out of a belief that golf courses can and should play a significant role in bird conservation.

The manual is written specifically for golf course superintendents and architects, but the information is applicable to landscape architects, urban planners, and managers of open space areas. The material covers general scientific concepts as well as specific techniques, and provides the basic principles of bird biology, including general habitat requirements, simple guidance for designing environmentally friendly sites, and specific management techniques. Detailed reference materials, including a list of more than 400 birds with their habitat requirements and conservation status provides an excellent reference for targeting management strategies.

The book is available for $27.95, plus shipping and handling, through the USGA Order Department at: 1-800-336-4446.



Minnesota GCSA Makes Donation to Turfgrass and Environmental Research Program

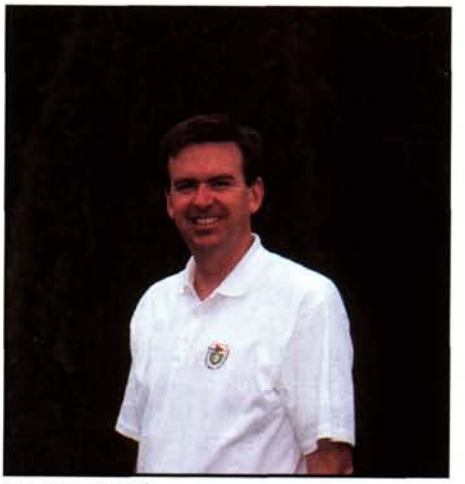
Bob Vavrek, agronomist for the USGA Green Section North-Central Region, accepts a donation from Rick Fredericksen, CGCS, on behalf of the Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents Association. The money will be used for the Turfgrass and Environmental Research Program. The research program is dedicated to developing turfgrasses for golf courses that substantially reduce water use, pesticide use, and maintenance costs, and to developing turfgrass management practices that protect the environment while providing quality playing surfaces. Rick is the current vice-president of the Minnesota GCSA and golf course superintendent at Woodhill C.C. in Wayzata, Minnesota.

Jim Baird Joins Green Section Staff

The USGA Green Section staff is proud to welcome Dr. Jim Baird as agronomist for the Northeast Region. Jim will work with David Oatis and Jim Skorulski in the region, concentrating his visits in New Jersey and New York.

As an assistant professor in the Crop and Soil Science Department at Michigan State University since 1997, his appointment was split between research, focusing on turfgrass physiology, and teaching both undergraduate and graduate coursework. He also was actively involved as advisor to the Michigan State University Turfgrass Club. Prior to joining the Michigan State faculty, Dr. Baird was an assistant professor for four years at Oklahoma State University.

Jim has hands-on golf course experience to complement his academic achievements, working at five golf courses in Colorado and Pennsylvania during his undergraduate days. His interest in turfgrass maintenance was fostered in high school by his first job on the maintenance crew at the municipal golf course in his hometown of Pueblo, Colorado.



Dr. Jim Baird

Dr. Baird received his Ph.D. and master of science degrees in botany and agronomy, respectively, from Auburn University. He completed his undergraduate degree in landscape horticulture at Colorado State University.

Jim will relocate with his wife, Yunsook, and daughter, Alison, to the Northeast regional office in Easton, Pennsylvania.

Two New Offices

Two new sub-regional offices have been opened to further serve golf courses taking advantage of the USGA Green Section Turf Advisory Service (TAS).

Keith Happ, agronomist for the Mid-Atlantic Region since 1993, has relocated to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, to further service clubs taking TAS visits in the Mid-Atlantic Region. Keith will focus his efforts in the western half of the Mid-Atlantic Region. The goal is to have the office operating by mid-May. You can find contact information about this sub-regional office on the USGA Green Section website (www.usga.org/green) and in the staff listing in subsequent issues of the *Green Section Record*.

A sub-regional office also has been opened in the Northwest Region, based in Twin Falls, Idaho. Matt Nelson, formerly an agronomist in the Northeast Region, will assist golf courses in the Northwest and Southwest Regions during the 2000 golf season. In cases of heavy demand for TAS visits, he will be available to help the directors of the other Green Section regions as well. Matt can be reached at 208-732-0280.

USGA Green Section Grant-in-Aid Awards for 2000

Green Section Region	Principal Investigator & University	Project Title	Grant Request
Florida	Lawrence E. Datnoff University of Florida — IFAS	Accumulation of Silicon by Bermudagrass to Enhance Disease Suppression	$ 3,000
Southeast	Beth Guertal Auburn University	Use of Oxygenators in Bentgrass Putting Greens	3,000
Mid-Atlantic	Peter H. Dernoeden University of Maryland	Safe and Effective Use of Quinclorac (Drive®) on Creeping Bentgrass Fairways	3,000
Northeast	Frank Rossi Cornell University	Influence of Microbial and Organic-Based Products on Creeping Bentgrass Putting Green Performance	3,000
North-Central	David Williams University of Kentucky	Renovation of Perennial Ryegrass Fairways with Seeded Bermudagrass	3,000
Mid-Continent	Randy Kane & Bruce Branham CDGA & University of Illinois	Early Season Suppression of *Poa annua* Seedhead Development with Growth Retardants and Wetting Agents	3,000
Mid-Continent	Dennis L. Martin Oklahoma State University	Evaluation of Electrochemical Water Conditioner for Irrigation Water Treatment	3,000
Northwest	Paul G. Johnson Utah State University	Investigations of Irrigation Amount and Frequency in the Cool-Arid West	3,000
Northwest	Bill Johnston & J. W. Sitton Washington State University	Evaluating New Fungicides for Their Efficacy to Control Snow Mold in the Intermountain Pacific Northwest	3,000
Southwest	David Kopec University of Arizona	Evaluation of Seashore Paspalum for Southwest Putting Greens	3,000
		Total	**$30,000**

The USGA Turfgrass and Environmental Research Committee has approved $30,000 for ten regional research projects ($3,000 per project). These grant-in-aid projects address issues or problems in the eight Green Section regions of the United States. Some of the projects are receiving additional support from local superintendent chapters, state turf research foundations, national research foundations, and other industry funds.

The projects fall into three general categories. First, some of the funding will provide seed money to begin research on a relatively new idea or concept. Second, some projects will address questions about new commercial products that are untested for golf course situations. The last project area includes traditional turfgrass research to solve a specific problem within one of the Green Section regions.

Most of the research projects will deal with regional research issues. For example, there is evidence that PNCB-resistant strains of snow mold fungi have developed in the intermountain regions of the Northwest. Washington State University faculty will evaluate several fungicides as potential controls for snow mold fungi. In Florida, scientists will determine of silicon fertilization enhances disease suppression in bermudagrass.

In Chicago, Illinois, researchers will evaluate early seedhead suppression of *Poa annua* with growth retardants and wetting agents. Research at the University of Kentucky, will examine chemical and cultural treatments to convert ryegrass fairways to some of the new cold-tolerant, seeded bermudagrass varieties.

In today's market there are a number of commercially available products untested for golf course situations. Questions have been raised about the reliability of such products. In many cases, much of their marketing is based on testimonial endorsements. Oklahoma State University scientists will evaluate electrochemical conditioning of irrigation water. Auburn University will evaluate the effects of oxygenating products.

The grant-in-aid research will provide answers quickly. Generally, the research will last for just a few months to provide the needed information on a problem. Some of the projects will be repeated a second year to verify results. However, the projects will produce results that golf course superintendents can use to make decisions about the products tested or problem addressed.

Research Publication Available

The American Chemical Society (ACS) recently published symposium proceedings, *Fate and Management of Turfgrass Chemicals*, edited by Drs. J. Marshall Clark and Michael P. Kenna. This 465-page book is a compilation of scientific papers presented at the American Chemical Society symposium held in Boston, Massachusetts, in August 1998.

The book summarizes 26 research papers in four topic areas: an overview of the turfgrass industry and environmental issues, pesticide/nutrient fate, best chemical management practices, and biotechnology and alternative pest management. Much of the research that serves as the basis of the publication was funded through the USGA Turfgrass and Environmental Research Program.

The book is available through the Oxford University Press for $140, plus shipping and handling. They can be reached at: 1-800-451-7556. Request ACS series number 743. If Oxford University Press is unable to fulfill your order, some copies of the book are available for purchase through the USGA by contacting Mary McConnell at 908-234-2300.