Books target personnel, finances

CHELSEA, Mich. — Books aimed at training superintendents to deal with personnel and financial management have been published as official publications of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America. Ann Arbor Press, Inc. has published Human Resource Management for Golf Course Superintendents by Robert Milligan and Superintendent’s Handbook of Financial Management by Raymond Schmidgall.

The resource management book provides basic management principles and techniques that view people as the most important asset. Five functions are detailed in the book using every-day situations to illustrate the key points. Designed to serve as a quick reference, or a self-teaching guide, the book features numerous techniques and practical examples.

Every aspect of management is covered from planning abilities to building leadership and communication skills, maximizing employee performance, selecting and training new employees, avoiding the mistakes that cause low morale and poor performance, and conducting employee performance evaluations.

The financial management manual was written to make complicated subjects easy to understand by providing simple demonstrations and useful exercises. It teaches how to use financial statements, balance sheets, income statements, accounting procedures, operating budgets and more.

Turfgrass disease atlas, irrigation manual published

CHELSEA, Mich. — Ann Arbor Press will soon publish two new books, Color Atlas of Turfgrass Diseases on Golf Courses by Dr. Toshikazu Tani and Dr. James Beard, and Guide to Golf Course Irrigation System Design and Drainage by Edward S. Pira.

Tani’s book was originally published in Japan and sold more than 2,700 copies. Beard discovered it during his travels and decided to translate the work and expand it for the American market.

The book presents 350 color photographs of all major turfgrass diseases that occur in warm- and cool-season grasses. Maps assist in disease identification by providing geographical locations where various diseases and pathogens are likely to occur. It also provides color photos of step-by-step guidance on diagnostic techniques for laboratory analysis that can be used by superintendents and turfgrass practitioners. The cost is $79.95.

Pira’s irrigation book has been used as a textbook for years, but this, its eighth printing, marks the first time it has ever been published as a hardcover type-set book. It has been completely revised with new exercises, practical examples, numerous new figures and expanded sections covering a wide variety of irrigation system components.

The book guides readers through every phase of an irrigation program, from design to construction, from program scheduling to operation and maintenance. Superintendents will find it useful to plan effective irrigation systems, ensure appropriate capacity, ease installation and provide practical operation and maintenance. The cost is $55.

Both books are available from Ann Arbor Press Inc., 121 South Main Street, P.O. Box 310, Chelsea, MI 48118; telephone 800-858-5299.

Mechanics newsletter full-service

WESTON, Mass. — Not only have golf course mechanics united, they have an official newsletter, Clippings.

Complete with news, columns and classified advertisements — and some entertaining graphics — Clippings was a full eight-page 8-by-11 edition in November, touching all the “hot buttons” for mechanics. Published by the Golf Course Mechanics Association (GCMA), its stories range from equipment schools to technical tips, to features on such topics as communications and changing equipment manufacturers.

Comments, questions and story ideas may be directed to GCMA President Steve Lucas at 275 Meadowbrook Road, Weston, Mass. 02193; or Vice President Brian Allond of Dedham Country & Polo Club at 36 Elm St., Wakefield, Mass. 01880; telephone 617-245-6092.

To all those superintendents who demand perfection and productivity, we dedicate a full range of equipment.