

# Multi-faceted age of information links superintendents to the latest

By TERRY BUCHEN

Some very good information services are available that can make superintendents' jobs easier and much more efficient. With the click of a mouse, or skimming over a newsletter, an endless source of information is at instant disposal.

Some noteworthy services include:

- **Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) Informa-**

**tion Service:** The GCSAA is providing an excellent in-house information services department, with David Bishop as senior manager, along with an assistant, two coordinators and a librarian.

They provide source operational information and can answer association questions with a telephone call or using e-mail and Internet. If a superintendent wants a reprint of a magazine article, to get everything they have on a

turf disease or management situation, to hook up with the Turf Grass Information File (TGIF) at Michigan State University, or to be referred to experts in a specific field of study, all they need to do is ask.

They will next-day air any request as long as the superintendent pays the freight, and they are extremely timely in

## SAVVY SUPERINTENDENT



the GCSAA's home page at <http://www.gcsaa.org>; by e-mail to [dbishop@gcsaa.org](mailto:dbishop@gcsaa.org); or by fax at 913-832-4449.

- **USGA Newsletter —**

faxing information. Their office hours are 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Central Standard Time, and they can be reached at 800-472-7878, or 913-832-4491; on

"Clippings" is a hidden gem of a newsletter published quarterly by Patrick M. O'Brien, director of the USGA Green Section's Southeastern Region. "Clippings" features first-rate information, has an award-winning presentation and is printed on colored, thick paper stock.

O'Brien and USGA agronomist Christopher Hartwiger write most of the articles and they have in-depth interviews with industry leaders as well.

For more information, contact O'Brien at 800-296-9398, or 770-229-8125; by fax at 770-229-5974; or on the Internet at [71524.1227@compuserve.com](mailto:71524.1227@compuserve.com).

- **Jim and Harriet —** Dr. James Beard, professor emeritus of turfgrass science at Texas A&M University and president and chief scientist at the International Sports Turf Institute, has a very good newsletter titled Turfax, published bi-monthly.

Beard's wife, Harriet, is the production editor and it is faxed and mailed all over the world to turfgrass professionals. For more information, call 409-693-4066; or fax 409-693-4878.

- **Turfcomms —** Dr. Douglas T. Hawes, certified professional agronomist, has another interesting newsletter that is published at unpredictable intervals and aims to "pass on what we learn willingly and happily to others in the profession so as to improve turf conditions around the country."

Hawes likes to "tell it like it is" and does a good job expounding on any turf-related subject in all of his travels teaching and performing agronomy consulting, as well as attending and reporting on the many turf conferences that he annually attends. For more information, contact Hawes at 214-867-0176.

- **Private Club Advisor —** Another timely newsletter is "The Private Club Advisor," a letter to the directors, officers, owners and managers of private clubs published and edited by Eldon Miller. This thorough newsletter quotes many different situations at clubs throughout the country on real-world situations about the ethical, safe and legal way to run a club.

It even gives the names and addresses of the officials involved so readers can contact them.

One key feature of the newsletter is interviews with golf course superintendents as well as lots of provocative and timely information.

For more information, call Miller at 214-756-9200; fax at 214-756-9010; or e-mail to [xzun38c@prodigy.com](mailto:xzun38c@prodigy.com).



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