

**OHCNH NEWSLETTER**

JUNE 2010

**OHCNH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING**

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The OHCNH Annual Golf Outing was held at the Stonebridge Country Club in Goffstown, NH Thursday, June 17, 2010. We had a great time and the weather cooperated which is always a plus.

The winning team was Team Sprague whose members include Frank Taylor, Chris O'Brien, Jay Turner and Paul Predaris. They shot a 60 which is twelve under the par for the course! Congratulations to team Sprague.

We had some generous donations of Red Sox Tickets that were raffled off to the group. Thanks to Frank Taylor of Sprague and Jeff Murdy of Total Energy Solutions for making that possible. I can safely say that those were the fastest raffle ticket sales I have ever witnessed.

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Stonebridge Country Club  
Goffstown, NH



Bob Garside, President



Shotgun start  
10:00 am.

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The Winning Team from Sprague with George Winslow OHCNH Golf Chairman and Bob Garside OHCNH President

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**OHCNH HAPPENINGS**

We would like to thank Curtis Lecolst from Hedge Solutions and Tom Rich from The Creative Companies for their expert volunteer efforts. Tom was an obvious choice for measuring the arm's length of raffle tickets and Curtis was the go to Mulligan guy. Both showed up early and raring to go. Thanks so much for your

George Winslow was the quintessential Chairman and took over the banquet with his prize giveaways and raffle fun.

Thanks to all the members for their continued support of the Oil Heat Council of New Hampshire.

See you all next year.



The Stonebridge Golf Course opened in 1998 and was designed by Philip A. Wogan (ASGCA) and George Sargent Jr. (ASGCA.) It is an 18 hole, par 72 course and is open to the public.

Our 45th Annual Convention is fast approaching. This year it will be held at the Sheraton Harborside Hotel in downtown Portsmouth, NH. September 14-16, 2010. Our guest speaker is Mike Schlappi 4 time Olympic wheelchair athlete who has won medals in wheelchair basketball. His story is certain to inspire you.

## FEDERAL HAPPENINGS

The B.P. Oil Spill is entering its third month. The cleanup efforts are costing BP over a hundred million dollars a day. It has been deemed the worst oil spill in United States history. This disaster has devastated the coastlines and of at least four states and the livelihoods of thousands of residents of those states not to mention the effect this will have on tourism and other revenues.

BP was running the well without a remote control shut-off switch, which is a last resort production against underwater spills. The use of such a device is not mandated by U.S. regulators.

The government is holding BP responsible for the spill and is holding it accountable for all the costs involved in the containment and clean up.

A twenty billion dollar escrow account has been set up for any and all claims from those whose lives and businesses are being affected by this devastating spill.



Senator Robert Byrd, the longest serving Senator in congressional history, died June 28, 2010 at the age of 92. Senator Byrd served as United States Senator from 1959 until his death.

He was the Dean of the Senate from 2003-2010.

Byrd was an outspoken critic of the invasion of Iraq and stated that his proudest vote was against the Iraq War Resolution.

## STATE LEGISLATION



Here is a breakdown of what passed this year in the regular and special sessions:

**Repeal of the LLC tax:** The 2009 budget extended the state's 5% dividends tax to these entities and was expected to raise \$30 million over 2 years. However, opposition from small businesses began building last fall, and all the players – the Democrats and the Republicans in the Legislature, and the Governor – stated their intent to repeal the tax in 2010. The repeal was in several stand-alone bills that fell by the wayside during the regular session, but it was folded into the final budget bill.

**Repeal of the campground tax:** The 2009 budget also imposed the 8% rooms and meals tax on campsites. This was repealed in 2010 by HB 1445, after an outcry from the tourism industry and campers.

**Tax exemptions for sewage disposal systems:** RSA 72:12-a, I was amended by HB 1293 to make it clear that sewage disposal systems are not pollution control devices eligible for local property tax exemptions. The statute predates current environmental laws and was intended back in the 1950's to encourage companies to install pollution control devices by exempting those devices from local property taxation. Eliminating this tax exemption altogether was seriously discussed - much to the shock of electric utility companies and others who receive the tax break - but not acted on this session. Meanwhile, the department of environmental services has convened a work group, which meets later this month, "to consider policy options for RSA 72:12-a, that may result in recommendations for legislative consideration in 2011. All options will be open to discussion, from not making any further amendment to considering language proposed this year by DES to clarify the statute's scope to repealing the section entirely."

**Poolled risk programs:** Late in the legislative session an amendment was proposed, with some fanfare and harsh rhetoric, to attempt to establish legislative caps on health insurance reserves held by public risk pools. In NH these are operated by the Local Government Center, Primex, and the NH School Boards Association, for local government employees. Although legislative leaders thought this would be popular with cities and towns, because it had the appearance of a windfall for local governments, it proved to be the opposite. After a great deal of opposition from local government leaders who were concerned that the proposal would destabilize the health care market, this part of the bill was rejected; instead, the continued authority of the Secretary of State to review this matter was passed. The final version of the bill does allow the Secretary of State to take some limited action on these reserves, but not without additional review by the Legislature.

**More legislative study committees:** Although there has been much discussion of limiting the number of new study committees created each biennium, there were a number of new or continued commissions, committees or task forces enacted this year. These include studies of the establishment of a department of natural resources, the inclusion of universal design requirements in the state building code, groundwater withdrawals, water infrastructure sustainability funding, access to dental care, and infant mortality. In addition, the budget also sets up a study commission on business taxes, to present a draft report later this year and a final report by November 1, 2012, addressing the business enterprise, the business profits, and the interest and dividends taxes, as well as the reasonable compensation issue.

June was a month of tremendous loss to two industries.

Jim Coffin passed away. He was instrumental in establishing what is now known as eastern Propane & Oil. He went on to become the first president of PGANE.

Walter Noyes founded the Vermont Oil Heat Institute was named Vermont's first "Oilman of the Year" in 1963 and invented the Tank Watcher which monitored fuel tank levels.

Both men were pioneers in their industries and will be greatly missed

## SAFETANK PROGRAM

The Department of Environmental Services has developed an informational brochure that they hope you will regularly include with your billing statements/invoices, newsletters and advertising materials. This brochure explains compliance requirements, the change in the compliance deadline and point out ramifications of non-compliance. It also includes a checklist that the tank owner can use to help them determine the compliance status of their system and whether they need to take action to correct deficiencies.

DES is also seeking the assistance of oil heating professionals who may be interested in performing compliance inspections.

Please contact Jack Chwasciak in the Waste Management Division at 603-271-3577 or email [jackchwasciak@des.nh.gov](mailto:jackchwasciak@des.nh.gov) with any questions or comments.



## LEAD CERTIFICATION

June 18, 2010 – EPA is providing renovation firms and workers additional time to obtain necessary training and certifications to comply with its new lead rules. [Read the enforcement guidance \(PDF\)](#) (2 pp, 476K, [about PDF](#)) and a [set of frequent questions \(PDF\)](#) (3 pp, 31K, [about PDF](#)).

How to become [Lead-Safe Certified](#)

- [Accredited training providers](#) near you
- [Certified firms](#) near you
- [Find out about EPA-recognized test kits](#)
- [Find out if your state is operating the certification program instead of EPA](#)
- [Answers to your questions](#), submit questions; [printer friendly version \(PDF\)](#) (67 pp, 221K, [about PDF](#))

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As you know we have updated our website which was developed by Paul Williamson of Gazungle from Belmont, Massachusetts. We are extremely pleased with the job that Gazungle did to update our website and make it user friendly. If you haven't visited yet please log on to [www.nhoilheat.com](http://www.nhoilheat.com) and take a look around. We have links to NEFI ,NORA and VFDA as well as information about membership and upcoming OHCNH events.

While you're there, check out your company and make sure the information is up to date. If not please send your changes to Susan at [ohcnh@nhoilheat.com](mailto:ohcnh@nhoilheat.com) .



**Oil Heat Council of New Hampshire's  
Mission Statement:**

The Oil Heat Council's Mission is to represent and be a resource to our members by monitoring and communicating pertinent information, regulatory actions and legislation at Federal, State and Municipal levels. To continue to identify and implement new programs, services and training that benefit the membership and the association. To communicate via public appearances and the media, informed responses to various oil industry situations and challenges affecting the consumer public. To keep the public informed regarding energy conservation, safety and environmental protection and the benefits of heating with oil; and to diligently uphold our commitment to the citizens of New Hampshire, practicing business of the highest standard, both professionally and ethically.

**ADVERTISE IN OUR NEWSLETTER**

The Oil Heat Council of New Hampshire has received numerous requests to advertise in our newsletter. To meet those requests, we have come up with the following offer.

1 Column by 2" color logo , unlimited text as long as it fits in the space, \$200.00

1 Column by 4" color logo, unlimited text as long as it fits in the space, \$350.00

For more information, please contact Susan at 603-895-3808 or email our office [ohcnh@nhoilheat.com](mailto:ohcnh@nhoilheat.com).