# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 11 – S&R Tournament Nicklaus Golf Club at Lionsgate

**June 2022** 

**November 2** – Annual Meeting 180 Room

**November 7** – Battle of the Heart Tournament Milburn Country Club

**December 19-20** – Common Ground Education Conference Olathe Conference Center

**December 19** – Past President Happy Hour Johnny's Tavern

#### Heart of America GCSA 10100 N Ambassador Dr Kansas City, MO 64153 816-561-5323 www.hagcsa.org

# **CLICK HERE TO REGISTER!**

## SCHOLARSHIP & RESEARCH TOURNAMENT







# Monday, July 11, 2022 Nicklaus Golf Club at LionsGate

7:30am – Check In 9:00am – Shotgun At the Turn - Lunch 1:30pm – LIVE Auction, Hors d' oeuvres, Awards and Scholarship Presentations

4 person scramble

\$900 per team; \$250 for singles

(includes: Golf, Cart, Lunch, Hors d' oeuvres, Skins Game, DeChambeau Hole, Hole in One Hole, and One Mulligan per player)

**Host Superintendent:** 

Jacob Rockhold, CGCS

#### **SUPERINTENDENTS**

You are encouraged to form a club team with colleagues, members and valued customers from your facility.

#### **BRING CASH**

(2 Opportunities)

50/50 Pot – Registration Desk (\$1 per ticket)

Half to Winner; Half to S&R Fund

50/50 Pot – Hole #14/Closet to the Pin (\$10 per player)

Half to Winner; Half to KSU Turf Club

#### **REGISTER AT:**

https://web.hagcsa.org/events/S-R-TOURNAMENT-4065/details

# **Title Sponsors**





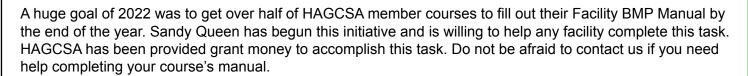
# President's Message

#### **Dear Heart Members**,

I always enjoy looking at my Facebook Memories page on a daily basis, whether it's watching my son grow up, living vicariously through my younger years, or seeing record breaking or very random experiences on the golf course, anywhere from extreme weather conditions, flooding, and fun past events. So, I think to myself, what will happen in 2022 that will make me enjoy looking back on.

We have already made some great memories with First Green events in 2022! Thank you to all the hosts, volunteers, and vendors support that came out to support our three hosted

events this Spring. Everyone involved looked like they were having a great time! I look forward to getting more events on the calendar. If you would like any information on hosting an event or if you haven't been asked to volunteer for an event and would like to help, please contact me directly.



I enjoyed seeing everyone that made it to the Joint Event with Kansas GCSA in Manhattan, Kansas. Our relationship with nearby Chapters will always be important with joint support for GCSAA. Thank you to Mark McKain and his crew for providing a great day of golf!

Don't forget to sign up for the 2022 HAGCSA Scholarship and Research Tournament hosted by Jacob Rockhold, Superintendent, at Nicklaus Golf Club at Lionsgate on July 11. We will see you there!

Thank you,

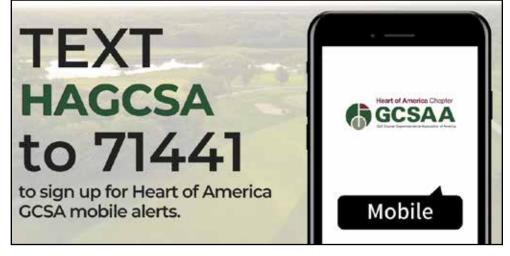
Jonathan Bennett

President

# Enhancing Communications – "OPT IN"

As a way to enhance our communication with members, we are introducing an optional text messaging program. Participants will receive key information about happenings at the association, deadline reminders, and possibly a survey or two.

The program is completely optional and you may opt out at any time.



# Wee One Foundation 2022 Event: A Wonderful Success Thanks to Many of You

You can never say thank you too much. If there is a common thread that is in each letter that the Wee One Foundation receives from the gift recipients, that is it. The MoKan Committee and the Wee One Board of Directors echoes these sentiments, because your generosity makes the Foundation's work possible. Last month, the MoKan Committee conducted their annual golf outing fund raiser for the Wee one Foundation. It was a smashing success, raising over \$14,000. With each event there are a lot of moving parts and many people to thank for their role in contributing to the overall success of it.

First, thanks to the members of the Heart of America and the Board of Directors for continuing to support the Wee one Foundation and keeping the golf outing in their yearly schedule.

Thanks to Brien Agler and Staley Farms for hosting the event this year. It's a great central location for members to get to and the staff always knocks it out of the park.

Thanks to all the sponsors of the event: Bayer, GC-SAA, Reinders, Midwest Section/PGA, Van Wall Golf



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Ally, Bradbury Family, Falcon Lakes Golf Club, Kansas Golf and Turf, Milburn Country Club, Oaks Golf and Redexim Turf Products.

Thanks to all the donors of items for the auction. It's very generous of you to donate each year without question.

Thanks to all those who bid on the items. We know many of the items are things you'll purchase anyhow. It still takes effort to set aside some monies in your budget, to make it to the meeting and partake in the

event (especially those who finished playing this year!)

Thank you to the MoKan Committee members: John O'Leary, Scott Wilcox, Cody Sander, Matt Hemphill, Bryan Ruder, Grant Sherwood, Tyler Koch, and



Duane Sander. Duane Sander and his team continue to be the catalyst driving the fund raising event and it is clear that John O'Leary from John Deere leads this



group with outstanding fund raising skills. Without these people doing the leg work, this event would not happen.

When MoKan first started this event, it was done in the memory of Mark Pierce. Mark was the first recipient

in the area of a Wee one gift in 2013. Shortly thereafter a committee was formed to support the Wee One Foundation. Since then, the group has conducted this event six times and, with the proceeds from this year, it will eclipse the \$40,000 mark generated for the Wee One. The Foundation will surpass \$1.9M in gifts by the end of this month and most likely eclipse the \$2M mark by the end of 2022. More importantly, it's helped

over 160 individuals and families through some tough times.

When we explain that the mission

of the Wee One is to help those who suffer because of catastrophic medical hardship, people shift their thinking that we only help pay medical bills.

Continued on next page

# Wee One Foundation Continued from page 3

While we do help pay medical expenses, the money that is gifted is often used for other things that are indirectly related, travel, childcare, loss of income from wages, medical devices and medication. There are a lot of hidden costs that creep up and can cause stress when people are trying to heal and navigate our fragmented healthcare system. The Wee One Foundation helps people focus on their healing, and just as important, it lets them know there is a whole industry behind them willing to help.

That's where Wee One Foundation, because of you, has made an impact in their lives and continues to do so today. Thank you for helping your fellow superintendents and staff members. If you or anybody you know in the industry, needs the help of Wee One Foundation, don't hesitate to reach out.

Story by: Luke Cella and Sandy Queen



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# Heritage Park Golf Course and Ethan Shamet Host a First Green Event

n Wednesday, April 27th, the Heart of America Golf Course Superintendents Association sponsored it's second "First Green" event held at Heritage Park GC. Golf Course Superintendent, Ethan Shamet, hosted Merriam Park Elementary School and the sixth grade were treated to a well-organized event showing how STEM education could be used in golf course maintenance.

#### There were five stations set up for the Class

**Math:** Students worked on using stimpmeters to calculate green speeds by Mike Maas, Sandy Queen and HPGC crew member Jared Morris. President of the HAGCSA, Jonathan Bennett, took the kids



through a complex process of calculating the cost and amount of materials that would be needed to build a green. They also learned how to use tape measures (this was more of a challenge

than I had anticipated) and calculate square footage of irregular shapes and the definition of "Pie" (Pi) not the kind you eat.

Water Conservation/Soils: This station was run by Dr. Jack Fry of K-State fame, along with one of his key staff, Dani McFadden, so the kids were treated to outstanding professionals that were truly experts. I am sure they learned more than they had expected.

**Golf/Putting:** As you would guess, this is the kids #1 favorite station. School and learning are great, but golf is just FUN. This station was run by Golf Professional Rob Wilkin and HPGC crew member Marc Shinn. I am not sure if anyone made a hold-in-one, but I did hear a lot of yelling from that station.

**Cool Tools and What We Do:** This station was led by Matt Gourlay, Jeff White and the HPGC assistant

Drew Murphy. Here they got to see all of our specialty tools; soil probes, moisture meters, cup changers, firmness measuring tools (the thumper) and most important, divot tools and how to repair a ball mark. There was also a demonstration on how and why cups are changed, tee markers moved, divots filled etc.



**Equipment:** Ethan had much of his equipment set out so the kids could see what we use to maintain the golf



course. Students got to sit on and have details explained on how and why each piece of equipment is used. This section was manned by Andy Klein, Richard Shumate, James Kennedy, with help by Darrel Silver and Alex McLoughlin of HPGC.

The First Green Program was a real success and one that we all need to embrace at our golf courses. In my 48 years in the golf business, I have not seen a more effective way to get students and teachers out onto our golf courses. When non-golfers get a chance to get out on the golf course and learn and understand what we do, they easily become advocates for what golf means to the communities and the environment.

I would like to acknowledge the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) for their support of the program and Mike Maas, Reinders, Inc., and Wes Kleffner, Bayer Environmental Science for their donation of pizza and drinks for students and volunteers.

# Joint Meeting With the Kansas and Heart of America GCSA at Manhattan Country Club

he tradition of a combined meeting between the Heart of America GCSA and the Kansas GCSA continued May 4, 2022, when close to 80 players came to meet, have some education and play

some golf. The executive director for KGCSA, Christy Dipman, staffed the registration table and welcomed everyone. Our host course superintendent, Mark McKan, had the golf course in good shape and showed off his seeded zoysia fairways (Zenith) and I must say they were really good. I think many of the

superintendents learned a lot about how good the seeded option of Zenith zoysia could be.

The meeting started off with a presentation from Dr. Jack Fry, PH.D., Dr. Steve Keely, Dr. Dale Bremer, Dr. Megan Kennelly and Dr. Ross Braun all K-State staff. There was talk about the declin-



ing numbers of turf students in college programs at K-State and across the country. Attendees were encouraged to attend the field day this year as we return

to a more normal schedule after the Covid pandemic.

After the talk, we had a great lunch and then Nic Younger, President of the Kansas Superintendents, announced pairings and teams for the competition. The format was a two-person shamble with teams from



Kansas and the Heart competing for bragging rights. The forecast was for a 100 percent chance of rain so we wanted to get started ASAP. The good news is once we started, we were only off the course, due to lightning, for about 15 minutes. Once we went back out, the rain held off.

I don't have the list of all the winners, but I do know that Jeff White and Jonathan Bennett were big winners and several other teams from the Heart won prizes. The bottom line is the Heart of America



GCSA beat the Kansas supers. There's always next year!



#### Member Profile

# Between the Tees With Wayne Scofield Wolf Creek

Briefly tell us about your family and where you are from?

I was born in Manhattan, Kansas and lived in California from age 5 until 23. I have one older brother and four half sisters and one half brother - all older than me.

 What are your hobbies and things you like to do away from work?

I enjoy playing golf and hanging out with friends. I also like doing home improvement projects. I'm really into old cars, mainly muscle cars and going to drag and drive events.

- How and why did you choose to get into the golf course equipment maintenance business? I worked for John Deere for many years, worked for Toro for a few years also. It was just a natural fit to work for a golf course. I have a good skill set for all the different things that have to be fixed.
- Tell us about your education, where else you've worked and how long you've been in your current position.

I started out as an automotive mechanic going to school at WYO Tech. I worked in the automotive field for about 10 years before switching to equipment. I spent 10 years at John Deere and three at Toro dealerships. Now I have been working on golf courses for about five years.

 If you could build a new maintenance building, what would you like included that you wish you had now?

A good, separate work space with a grinding room and an indoor wash pad with a hot, pressure washer.

 What would be your dream job? Why?
 A quality control rep. for a global company traveling to various locations. What is one thing you wish you had more time to do?

I wish I had more time to travel and see new places. I also wish I had more time to spend with my brother.



 If you could travel anywhere on vacation, where would it be?

I would go to see Europe. I have been to 37 states and would like to finish that list also.

 Favorite adult beverage, college sport/team and pro team?

I don't really watch sports. If I were to a drink it would be Crown and Coke.



## First Green Event at Sykes/Lady Overland Park

n Thursday,
April 21, 2022
the Heart of
America Golf Course
Superintendents
Association hosted the
first "First Green" event
in the area. Host Golf
Course Superintendents included Doug
Melchior ,Tom Storey
and Marc Szablewski.
Prince of Peace Catholic school from Olathe,



Queen, CGCS, Randy Robinson, GCSAA, Tom Storey and Larry Kruse, Sykes/Lady Overland Park Golf Club and Leann Cooper GCSAA.

A special thanks to Ken Harding from Windfield Solutions for sponsoring lunch for all the kids and volunteers.

Kansas had sixty 6th graders in attendance.

Volunteers were Tanner Fox and Spencer Roberts, CGCS Shadow Glen Golf Club, Mark Newton, CGCS Professional Turf Products, Marc Szablewski and Matt Baslee, St. Andrew's Golf Club, Gianna Augustine(Coach G), PGA Teaching Pro, Sandy

STEM education and learning stations included use of the stimp meter, different soils and turfgrass types used on golf courses, how and why cups are cut, a putting station, water quality and use of natural resources along with an equipment station. The kids were excited to visit a golf course and see what "golf course maintenance" is all about.





**John Dixon** jdixon@advancedturf.com (816) 210–0071



**Mike Schemel** mschemel@advancedturf.com (573) 450–3552



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## Sunflower Hills Golf Course Hosts Third First Green Event

On May 10th. Jonathan Bennett, Golf Course Superintendent at Sunflower Hill's, our President of the HAGCSA hosted the First Green event. The event was held at the First Tee six hole facility and was the perfect place for the students.

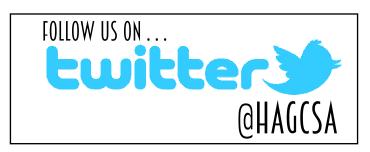
The class was a sixth grade group of kids from the Piper Middle School. They were great and we had a good time. This class had been working in advance on the golf course visit in preparation for the First Green event. In class they were working on designing a golf course and green and also had worked on the math portion of the event. It's still fun to watch the kids working on math problems as a small group but the most fun is watching them trying to use a measuring tape that has both US and Metric measurements on each side of the tape. The good news is they only ruined one tape!

In addition to the math, the other stations were Bug's, Water Quality, Tools used to maintain the course and the favorite, putting!

Special thanks to Matt Giese and Syngenta for not only helping arrange the school, helping Jonathan run the event but also for providing all the volunteers with shirts and hats.











# MONEY BACK IN YOUR POCKET

The Heart of America GCSA provides an Employee Awards Program to help offset some of the cost of school for those who are full-time employees taking turfgrass classes.

### **CONGRATULATIONS to our 2022 RECIPIENT**

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# Special Thanks to our 2022 Partners

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## Record Breaking Total for Turfgrass Research

The Rounds4Research auction raised a record-breaking \$482,000 for turfgrass research. The auction sold 1,361 rounds of golf worldwide, including 56 courses from HAGCSA for over \$16,000, making it the most successful in the program's history. HAGCSA helped contribute an extra \$6,500 more than the 2021 auction. Golf courses in Kansas and Missouri have significantly increased our participation in the auction, Thank you to the following facilities who donated rounds in these states.

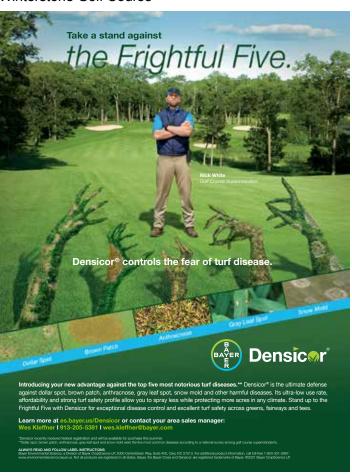
#### Kansas:

Canyon Farms Golf Club Colbert Hills Golf Course Country Club of Leawood Crestview Country Club Dub's Dread Golf Club Eagle Bend Golf Course Falcon Ridge Golf Course Firekeeper Golf Course Flint Hills National Golf Club Heritage Park Golf Course Indian Hills Country Club Ironhorse Golf Club Lawrence Country Club Manhattan Country Club Nicklaus Golf Club at Lionsgate Osawatomie Golf Course Overland Park Golf Club Painted Hills Golf Club Prairie Highlands Golf Club Reflection Ridge Golf Club Shadow Glen Golf Club Shawnee Golf & Country Club Spring Creek Golf Course Stagg Hill Golf Club St. Andrews Golf Course Sunflower Hills Golf Course Sycamore Ridge Golf Club Tallgrass Country Club Terradyne Country Club The Golf Club at Falcon Lakes Topeka Country Club Wichita Country Club Willowbend Golf Club

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Class AF • Term Expires: 2022

#### Richard Shumate (Affiliate Liaison and Co-Chairman Fall Out Tournament)

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#### **Dual Membership Requirement:**

OFFICE USE: □Board Approval

□Database/Spreadsheet

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