

Our Mission is to promote the welfare of the game of golf, the science and art of golf course management, the organizational and business effectiveness of the profession, the professional image and well-being of individual members, and to unite golf course superintendents within the Greater Kansas City area.

Since 1933

Heart of America Chapter

# GCSAA

GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA



Environmental  
Institute for Golf

Governor's Club



Volume 41, No. 8

OCTOBER 2009



## ***Annual Meeting at Shadow Glen, The Golf Club***

**Date:** Monday, November 2, 2009

**Location:** Shadow Glen, The Golf Club

**Host Superintendent:** Scott Johnson CGCS

**Assistant Superintendents:**

Mike Moloney, Heath Fisher  
Chris Lebbin, Spencer Roberts

**Landscape Supervisor:** Lisa Jo Sutherland

**Schedule:**

5:00 p.m. - Registration/Cash Bar  
6:00 p.m. - Dinner  
6:45 p.m. - Meeting

**Course History:** Shadow Glen, The Golf Club is a private club designed by Jay Morrish and Tom Weiskopf Team

with Tom Watson providing his insights. The membership is celebrating their 20th anniversary this year. The course consists of A1/A4 greens with zoysia fairways and bluegrass roughs.

**Superintendent Profile: Scott Johnson, CGCS,** started with Shadow Glen Golf Club in February 2002. Scott graduated from KSU in 1981 with a B.S. in Horticulture. After two years as an assistant, he worked as a superintendent at several courses in Ft. Worth, Texas for 15 years and 5 years in Atlanta, Georgia. Scott has been a Certified Golf Course Superintendent since December 1989 and he is currently serving as President of the HAGCSA.

**Assistant Superintendent Profile: Mike Moloney** started work at Shadow Glen 15 years ago. While attending classes at JCCC I have worked my way through just about every job here. I enjoy the challenge of making Shadow Glen look good in the shortest time possible.

**Continued on page 9**

## Heart of America GCSA

### Officers and Board of Directors:

**President:** Scott Johnson, CGCS - Shadow Glen, The Golf Club, 913.764.6572

**Vice President:** Doug Melchior - Overland Park Golf Club, 913.897.3805

**Secretary/Treasurer:** Darin Pearson - Alvamar Country Club, 785.843.6303

**Immediate Past President:** Brad Gray - Mission Hills Country Club, 913.722.9432

### Directors:

**Scholarship & Research:** Todd Bohn - Creekmoor Golf Club, 816.331.2621

**Tournaments:** Steve Wilson, CGCS - Meadowbrook Country Club, 913.642.2338

**Membership:** Paul Davids, CGCS - Sycamore Ridge Golf Course, 913.592.2085

**Education:** Tim Nielsen - Drumm Farm Golf Course, 816.350.9900

**Meetings & Programs:** Paul Gunderman - Falcon Ridge Golf Course, 913.780.1278

**Public Relations/Communications:** Bill Irving - Lawrence Country Club, 785.842.0592

### Special Directors:

Gary Breshears - Kansas City Turf Supply, 816.518.8691

Chad Hinderliter - Lawrence Country Club, 785.842.0592

Ryan Varns - Metcalf Ridge Golf Club, 913.837.4354

Darrin Johnson - The Andersons, 515.249.8980

### Chapter Delegate Liason:

Jeff Eldridge, CGCS, Nicklaus Golf Club at Liongate, 913.402.1576

### National Director:

Sandy Queen, CGCS - City of Overland Park Golf Division, 913.897.3805

### HeartBeat Editor:

Tony Bertels - Swope Memorial Golf Course, 816.513.8911

### Executive Director:

Kim Weitzel, 816.561.5323

## Support Your 2009 HeartBeat Advertisers

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BWI  
800-247-4954

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913-492-5920

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Kansas City Turf Supply  
913-915-2994

Kansas Golf & Turf  
1-800-260-6095

Meyers Companies  
913-681-2667

Mid-America Golf & Landscape  
816-524-0010

Midwest Laser Leveling  
785-608-0195

Redexim Turf Products  
816-309-6500

Reinders, Inc.  
913-238-0869

913-787-1025  
816-225-7235

R.M.I. Golf Carts  
913-829-1211

Snyder Bros. Golf Construction  
816-697-2444

Stingray Aquatics (pond restoration)  
708-278-1988

Supreme Turf Products  
913-829-3611

Syngenta Professional Products  
314-308-0330

Turf Professionals Equipment  
913-599-1449

Urban Tree Care  
816-214-8327

Van Wall Equipment  
913-397-6009

Vermeer Great Plains  
1-800-932-3655

Williams Lawn Seed, Inc.  
816-863-1372

# FUNCTION FORECAST

## DATE

October 5-6

October 20

November 2

December 4

December 15-16

February 8-12

February 10

March 29

## EVENT

MO Cup Challenge

Vendor Appreciation

Annual Meeting

Holiday Party

Common Ground Conference

GCSAA National Conference

HAGCSA Hospitality Suite

Joint Meeting with KGCSA



## The End of the 2009 Golf Season

Heavy dew and falling leaves signal the 2009 golf season is winding down. I hope that I'm not the only one still putting the finishing touches on the course in order to ready everything for winter? The last two summers have been quite different from the normal southwestern jet stream promoting the hot temperatures of summers past. What a nice break from the heat and the struggles it brings!

O'kay..... last month I informed the membership of a dues increase for 2010 and I have not heard a word from anyone or felt any daggers in my back. Over the next three months, the Board will be formulating a budget for 2010 and your input and ideas are strongly encouraged and needed. This month's Lake of the Ozarks tournament and the Annual Meeting on November 2nd will provide good opportunities to share your opinions and concerns with your peers and board members. If you are not able to attend one of these functions, please give me a call and bend my ear. My cell number is 913-669-0677. Again, we are a membership driven association and the pulse of the membership is critical to our collective success.

In another month, the Annual Meeting will be held on the first Monday of November. Brad Gray, the Past President is working on a slate of candidates for the Board of Directors. As of early September, Brad's having a difficult time finding individuals to run for the three vacating director positions. If you have an interest in helping shape the future of our association, I urge you to consider serving on the Board of Directors and contact Brad as soon as possible.

Earlier this summer, I mentioned that interest in an Assistant's Committee was being reviewed by the Board of Directors and that some changes to the Bylaws may need to be presented to the Membership at the Annual Meeting. After the August Board meeting, the consensus of the board was that an assistant committee was a great idea and no bylaw changes were necessary at this time.

Each year, the President will appoint an assistant to the board as a Special Director for a one year term to chair an assistant's committee. The board will provide guidance and support to the assistant and the committee. Chad Hinderliter, assistant superintendent at Lawrence CC, has done a great job promoting the idea, formulating some committee structure and being extremely patient with the board.



My term as president of the Heart will come to an end in the next two months. Before my tenure ends, I need to thank a lot of people for allowing me the opportunity to serve our association. For right now, I would like to thank the board of directors at Shadow Glen and my staff. They all showed great patience when I needed to attend a meeting or two and they kept the course in great shape in my absence. I am very fortunate to have a great staff and supportive club leadership. My reign as president lasted a year longer than I had originally planned, but the experience was something I'll cherish for years to come. Thank you!

**Scott Johnson, CGCS**

~ MARK YOUR CALENDAR ~



## ANNUAL MEETING

**November 2, 2009  
Shadow Glen, The Golf Club**

5:00 p.m. – Registration / Cash Bar

6:00 p.m. – Dinner

6:45 p.m. – Annual Meeting & Elections

## *I Thought This Was Supposed To Get Easier (2009 Suk'd!)*

By Paul Gunderman, Director

After coming off of a pretty good year in 2008 that included Golf Digest awarding Falcon Ridge a 4 1/2 star rating for the upcoming year, I began the '09 season anxious yet optimistic. In the wake of that rating issued a welcomed approval from the home office affording us a couple of new pieces of equipment for the year (that was big news because this is a rarity around these parts). I was also appointed to serve on the Board of Directors for our local superintendent association which I felt would expand my horizons a bit. With all of this going on, in the back of my mind I began to think that I actually knew what I was doing.....and then the season started.

The first chink in the armor came when I found out that my payroll was cut from the prior year. I did not notice this until I began to organize my March and April crew and realized the budget showed I would be down 50-70 man-hours per week from April through October. We were already running a small crew for a course this size. These new cuts made this difficult to swallow. I also knew that the "marketing experts" would occasionally advertise us as a 4 1/2 star golf course. I knew the rating would be extremely tough to live up to even without the cuts. I began to feel defenseless. Instead of calling my seasonal crew and telling them it was time to go to work, I had to let them know that their positions had been eliminated for the year. This was extra difficult because I was actually turning away good help, something that is tough to come by. Adding insult to injury, I had to inform my year-round crew that even though they broke their backs for the course in '08, none of them would be receiving a raise in '09. You can imagine how well these conversations went! Even with all of this not-so-good news coming to us early in the season, we were, of course, going to give it a shot and see what we could accomplish in the coming year.

Then the rain came. And it came some more. And then it came a lot more. Then the fescue grew. And it grew some more. And then it grew a lot more. And then the zoysia patch grew, and it grew some more. All the while, the zoysia teetered between brown and green. The homeowners, not wanting to miss out on my misery, kept watering their lawns. And then they watered them some more. Then just a little bit more. And then they watered even more after that! Our mowers could not keep up. The golfers could not find their balls and when they did, they could not hit out of it. Needless to say my phone kept ringing. Not only was I receiving phone calls from the pro shop, the homeowners began to call as well. They were not thrilled with our newly established "no mow"

areas that were established for environmental purposes as well as to save money on labor and fuel. More than a few of the homeowners did not like the taller grass (and a few weeds). They were more than willing to share their thoughts with me. Through these conversations I learned that they did not appreciate the environment like I did. It seemed that they were more than willing for me to burn as much fuel as possible. I was able to reason with some of the homeowners, while others I simply played dumb and told them I did not know what they were complaining about. Of course, a small minority convinced my superior to go mow their grass down. Once the homeowners became used to what they were seeing, the phone calls began to subside.

As the phone calls subsided in late June so did the rain. With the end of the rain came some heat along with a severe bout of fairy ring. Instead of seeing the typical green ring that gives advanced warning of problems to

**Continued on page 12**



## **VENDOR APPRECIATION**

October 20, 2009

### **LOCATION**

Overland Park Golf Club (Westlinks)  
12501 Quivira  
Overland Park, KS 66213

### **SCHEDULE**

Registration & Lunch / 11:30am to 12:45pm  
Shotgun / 1:00pm  
After Golf / Awards

### **COST**

Vendors / Free of Charge  
Members / \$30.00 per person  
Lunch Only / \$15 per person

### **FORMAT**

9 holes / 4 person scramble  
Limited to 72 players / Vendors take priority

### **SIGN UP TODAY!**

Registration form within newsletter.

# VENDOR APPRECIATION



*Promoting the welfare of the game of golf, the professional image and well-being of individual members, and to unite golf course superintendents in this area.*

**DATE:** Tuesday, October 20, 2009

**LOCATION:** Overland Park Golf Club (Westlinks)  
12501 Quivira  
Overland Park, KS 66213

**NOTE:** Arrive at clubhouse to pickup cart.  
Proceed to Westlinks for registration, lunch & shotgun start.

**HOST SUPERINTENDENT:** Doug Melchior

**SCHEDULE:** Registration & Lunch / 11:30am to 12:45pm  
Shotgun / 1:00pm  
After Golf / Awards

**COST:** Vendors / Free of Charge (**Thanks** for your support throughout the year!)  
Members / \$30.00 per person  
Lunch Only / \$15 per person

**FORMAT:** 9 holes. 4 person scramble (Limited to 72 players. Vendors take priority.)

**NOTE:** Superintendents are encouraged to invite at least one vendor to be on their team.  
If a superintendent / vendor team is not established, the committee will re-pair teams.

**DRESS CODE:** Collared shirt - no denim – soft spikes only

**RESERVATIONS:** Mail, Fax or Email Reservation no later than Thursday, October 15

**DIRECTIONS:** From I-35; go east on I-435 to Quivira Road; south on Quivira Road about 2½ miles to the Clubhouse on the east side of the street.



**SUPERINTENDENTS:** To help off set the cost and show our appreciation to our vendors, we're looking for superintendents to donate funds towards the cookout. Please indicate below how you can help.

**Yes, I/we plan to attend Vendor Appreciation! (SINGLES ALWAYS WELCOME!)**

Player(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Company: \_\_\_\_\_ Handicap: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT: \_\_\_\_\_  
 COMPANY: \_\_\_\_\_  
 PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: \_\_\_\_\_  
 EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*SUPERINTENDENT DONATION:** I wish to donate \$ \_\_\_\_\_ toward the cookout. (\$20, \$30, \$40, \$50)

**PAYMENT:**

Check Enclosed     Invoice(\*)     Credit Card: No.: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Security Code (required): \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Please email me a receipt. (Must provide email address above.)

(\*)By indicating you wish to be invoiced, you agree to pay total invoice **upon receipt**. Invoices will be sent electronically when an email is provided.

\*\*\*All "No Shows" will be billed. \*\*\*

Complete Form and Mail, Fax or Email no later than Thursday, October 15 to:  
**HAGCSA**, P.O. Box 419264, Kansas City, MO 64141-6264  
 816-561-5323/phone; 816-561-1991/fax; www.hagcsa.org

# ANNUAL MEETING

**DATE:** Monday, November 2, 2009

**LOCATION:** Shadow Glen, The Golf Club  
26000 Shadow Glen Dr.  
Olathe, KS 66061

**HOST SUPERINTENDENT:** Scott Johnson, CGCS

**SCHEDULE:** 5:00 p.m. – Registration / Cash Bar  
6:00 p.m. - Dinner  
6:45 p.m. - Meeting

**COST:** Meeting / \$40.00 per person  
Golf / \$30 per person

**GOLF OPTION:** If you would like to play golf at Shadow Glen Golf Club prior to the meeting (12:00pm shotgun) please reserve your spot by completing the form below.

**DRESS CODE:** Golf / Country Club attire (collared shirts, spikeless shoes, no jeans or cargo pants)  
Meeting / Business Casual

**DIRECTIONS:** Take K10 Hwy 1 mile west of K7 Hwy to Cedar Creek Pkwy. Exit at Cedar Creek and go south, through two four-way stop signs, entrance to club is on the right.

**RESERVATIONS:** Mail, Fax or Email Reservation no later than Wednesday, October 28.



*Promoting the welfare of the game of golf, the professional image and well-being of individual members, and to unite golf course superintendents in this area.*

Yes, I/we plan to attend the Annual Meeting!

Meeting & Golf      Meeting Only

Attendee(s): _____	Company: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	Company: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	Company: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	Company: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**PAYMENT:**

Check Enclosed     Invoice(\*)     Credit Card: No.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Security Code (now required): \_\_\_\_\_ Exp.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Please email me a receipt. (Must provide email address above.)

(\*)By indicating you wish to be invoiced, you agree to pay total invoice **upon receipt**.  
Invoices will be sent electronically when an email is provided.

\*\*\* "No Shows" will be billed. \*\*\*

Complete form and Mail, Fax or Email no later than Wednesday, October 28 to:  
**HEART OF AMERICA GCSA**  
P.O. Box 419264, Kansas City, MO 64141-6264  
816-561-5323/phone; 816-561-1991/fax; www.hagcsa.org

# RECOGNIZING OUTSTANDING MEMBERS

Each and every Heart member deserves credit for surviving a hectic spring and summer, but there are ones among us who deserve special recognition for the job they have done this year or over their careers.

As a member, you know who these individuals are. **Now is the time** to send your nominations for The Assistance Superintendent of the Year, The Superintendent of the Year and The Chester H. Mendenhall Award. These prestigious awards will be given out at the Annual **Holiday Party on December 4**.

Please submit your nominations by completing the reverse side and forwarding to the HAGCSA office.

## Eligibility and Qualifications

### **Assistant Superintendent of the Year**

This award will be presented annually to the assistant who has demonstrated dedication and excellence at their job over the past year.

The guidelines are as follows:

1. Must be a member of the Heart of America.
2. Must be an assistant that represents their profession to the highest degree.
3. Must be at their present course for no less than two seasons.
4. This award shall be governed by the assistant's achievements in any of the following.
  - Competency in agronomic skills
  - Ability to efficiently run the daily operations of the course
  - Effectively running course projects
  - Assisting in the preparation of their course for regional or national events
  - Involvement with local, regional, or national turf related associations
  - Strong involvement in course renovations and new course construction
  - Goal oriented and striving to become a superintendent
  - Exceptional contributions to this association through involvement
5. These accomplishments must have occurred in the current year.

### **Superintendent of the Year**

This award, established in 1970, has been presented annually to the golf course superintendent who has demonstrated dedication and outstanding service to his or her profession.

The guidelines are as follows:

1. Must be a "Class A or Superintendent Member" in good standing.
2. Must be a superintendent that represents the organization and himself to the highest degree.
3. This award shall be governed by the superintendents achievements in either:
  - Excellence in golf course management
  - Preparation of his or her course for regional or national golf tournaments
  - Achievements for renovation or new golf course construction
  - Involvement with local, regional, or national turf related associations
  - Exceptional contributions to this association through involvement
4. These accomplishments must have occurred in the current year.

### **Chester H. Mendenhall Award**

This award has been established to honor an individual who has devoted extensive time and effort to the promotion of golf, the art of greenskeeping and other related fields. Begun in 1983, this award is named after a golf course superintendent who dedicated his life to his profession.

The guidelines are as follows:

1. Must be a HAGCSA member in good standing.
2. Must be an individual that represents the organization and him or herself to the highest degree.
3. This award shall be governed by the individual's achievements over an extended period of time:
  - Outstanding service to this organization
  - Involvement with local, regional, or national turf related organizations
  - Continued support and service to the golf industry or his/her community

# HAGCSA AWARD NOMINATION FORM

## HEART OF AMERICA GCSA AWARD WINNERS



### *Assistant Superintendent of the Year*

2005 Greg Milligan  
2006 John Sheehe  
2007 Jeff Stoecklein  
2008 Johnny Brockus

### *Superintendent of the Year*

1982 Carl Beer  
1983 Chet Mendenhall  
1984 Jack and Bill Robison  
1985 Del King  
1987 Duane Patton, CGCS  
1988 Nels Lindgren, CGCS  
1989 Cary Tegtmeyer, CGCS  
1990 Ed Huggins  
1992 Loren Breedlove  
1993 Jeff Eldridge, CGCS  
1994 Pat Finlen, CGCS  
1995 Jon Francis  
1996 Chuck Hybl, CGCS  
1997 Jeff Elmer, CGCS  
1998 Jim Naudet  
1999 Mark Pierce  
2000 Paul Tormanen  
2001 Tony Bertels  
2002 Duane Sander, CGCS  
2003 Brian Ruder  
2004 Rusty Hamman  
2005 Jimmy Angelotti  
2006 Doug Melchior  
2007 Brad Minnick, CGCS  
2008 Terry Rodenberg

### *Chester Mendenhall Award*

1987 Gil Collins  
1988 Sandy Queen, CGCS  
1989 Tom Kohout  
1990 Dave Fearis, CGCS  
1991 Duane Patton, CGCS  
1992 Dick Stuntz, CGCS  
1994 Meril Vanderpool  
1995 Jud Coester  
1996 Jim Shields  
1997 Pat Finlen, CGCS  
1998 Dave Fearis, CGCS  
1999 Gene Eldridge  
2000 Nels Lindgren, CGCS  
2001 Dick Stuntz, CGCS  
2002 Jeff Elmer, CGCS  
2003 Melvin W. Anderson  
2004 Loren Breedlove, CGCS  
2005 Gary Higbie  
2006 Tony Bertels  
2007 Bill Maynard, CGCS  
2008 Jeff Eldridge, CGCS

Please use this form to nominate individuals for the Assistant Superintendent of Year, Superintendent of the Year and the Chester H. Mendenhall Award. Qualifications and criteria for each award are listed on the back of this form. Please feel free to add sheets if additional room is needed.

### *Assistant Superintendent of the Year Award*

Individual Nominated: \_\_\_\_\_

Reasons for Nominating: \_\_\_\_\_

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### *Superintendent of the Year Award*

Individual Nominated: \_\_\_\_\_

Reasons for Nominating: \_\_\_\_\_

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### *Chester H. Mendenhall Award*

Individual Nominated: \_\_\_\_\_

Reasons for Nominating: \_\_\_\_\_

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***Please submit your nomination to HAGCSA by OCTOBER 2, 2009.***

***P.O Box 419264 . Kansas City . MO . 64141  
816-561-5323 . 816-561-1991 (fax) . kswank@swassn.com***



**Assistant Superintendent Profile: Heath Fisher** was raised in Lebo, KS east of Emporia. He attended Butler Community College on a football scholarship and then transferred to Emporia State in 1992 where he started his golf course maintenance career at Emporia CC. Heath moved to Kansas City in 1999 and he worked at Oakwood CC for a year before moving to Loch Lloyd CC until 2002. He became an assistant at Shadow Glen in the summer of 2002 and he looks forward to the next challenge whatever that may be.

**Assistant Superintendent Profile: Chris Lebbin** graduated from Kansas State University in December of 2003. He previously worked at Mission Hills C.C. as a 2nd assistant and Indian Hills C.C. as a crew foreman. He has been an assistant at Shadow Glen Golf Club since the fall of 2006.

**Assistant Superintendent Profile: Spencer Roberts** graduated from Kansas State University in 2007. He spent time at both Stagg Hill Golf Club and St. Andrews Links, Scotland before accepting the assistant position at Shadow Glen, The Golf Club

**Landscape Supervisor: Lisa Jo Sutherland** has worked at Shadow Glen since 2002 following a career in the mental health field. "I was just planning on taking a temporary break from my profession.....that was 7 years ago.



**There is no "I" in Team**  
by Tony Bertels

It's all for one and one for all!  
I proclaimed to staff and crew  
You shall be my paper  
And I shall be your glue

One big happy family  
Should always be our dream  
We can do most anything  
If we do so as a team

Though we are all just little cogs  
Together we're a wheel  
A mighty sword of unity  
As strong as tempered steel

Unless the tide starts turning  
And the crap begins to slip  
Then team goes out the window  
And the rats abandon ship

NEW CHIPCO TRITON® FLO  
WORKS BEST IN THE  
FOLLOWING AREAS:




Rick Robb  
Sales Representative  
Kansas - Nebraska - Missouri  
(913) 205-5381

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As always, you're Backed by Bayer. All of our research and support is to ensure you have the most effective products available. To create the healthiest, greenest turf possible for you. To learn more about Chipco Triton FLO and StressGard, go to [www.BackedbyBayer.com/TritonFLO](http://www.BackedbyBayer.com/TritonFLO).



 Bayer Environmental Science  
Bayer Environmental Science, a business group of Bayer CropScience L.P., 2 T.W. Alexander Drive, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709, 1-800-331-2867, www.BackedbyBayer.com. Chipco Triton is a registered trademark of Bayer. StressGard is a trademark of Bayer. Not all products are registered in all states. Always read and follow label instructions carefully. ©2009 Bayer CropScience LP.

**AWARD NOMINATIONS**  
Deadline: October 2, 2009

Who will take home this year's awards? Now is the time to submit your nominations for Assistant Superintendent of the Year, Superintendent of the Year and the Chester Mendenhall Award for 2009. Complete the enclosed form and submit nominations no later than October 2, 2009. Recipients will be awarded at the Holiday Party on December 4, 2009.

2008  
Superintendent of the Year



**TERRY RODENBERG**  
St. Andrews Golf Course



Well OK! It looks like we have some *Playas* who can decipher my clues.

September's Clue:  
Empress on the Beach  
**Answer: Sandy Queen**

Here is a list of those that answered September's teaser correctly (as of September 21) and are one step closer with their "first entry" for that \$250 Best Buy shopping spree.

- Jon Bakalar
- Jonathan Bennett
- Gary Breshears
- Paul Davids, CGCS
- Brad Gray
- Tom Elder
- Brad Lackey
- Bill Maynard, CGCS
- Tim Nielsen
- Dylan Senn
- John Sheehe
- Bill Tritt
- Brian Wright

*Gosh, I'm clever!* Remember, each answer will pertain to something related to our industry, terminology we would recognize, a golf course, or even a local member (or a play on their name). The answer can be a person, place or thing.

Well, here is your chance to solve my next riddle and get your name in a drawing for a **\$250.00 gift card from Best Buy** to be awarded at the Holiday Party. Again, every month I will supply a clue. You must then come up with the correct response and submit your answer via the website only (**www.hagcsa.org**) prior to the answer being supplied in the next edition. Correct responses will entitle an entry (one entry per correct response) into the drawing. If you solve each month's riddle, your name gets put in the hat that many times, increasing your odds at this fabulous shopping spree. You must be present at the Holiday Party (December 4) to win, so everyone better get in the spirit of the season! All members in good standing are eligible to enter.

**October's Teaser: Exercise a Stooge**  
**Answer:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Hint: This two-word term contain 4 letters in the first and 3 in the second!*

### SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

Deadline: October 30, 2009

The Heart of America GCSA Scholarship Program offers educational aid to deserving students in the turfgrass program at an accredited college or university in Kansas or Missouri.



Applications will compete based on the or overall qualifications determined by the Scholarship and Research Committee. Please help us get the word out by directing students to our website ([www.hagcsa.org](http://www.hagcsa.org)) to download an application the criteria. All applications must be received by October 30, 2009.

Scholarship recipients will be recognized at the Common Ground Conference on December 15, 2009.

### Roster Update

Please make the following update to your 2009 Roster;

Ken Smith  
Xtreme Turf & Landscape  
913-402-7569

### Has Something Changed?

Be Sure to Report Job Changes and Other Moves to the Heart of America GCSA

Phone: 816-561-5323  
Fax: 816-561-1991 or  
e-mail: [kweitzel@swassn.com](mailto:kweitzel@swassn.com)



## **CALLING ALL VENDORS (Four Associations – One Location – Be There!)**

The Heart of America Golf Course Superintendents (HAGCSA) and the Mid-America Green Industry Council (MAGIC); along with their participating partners, MOKAN Sport Turf Managers Association (MOKAN) and the Irrigation Association (IA) have joined forces for the fifth annual Heartland Green Industry Expo. Uniting all four associations is for the betterment of the turf industry, its members and affiliates. This expo and conference will attract record numbers of lawn and landscape companies, golf course superintendents, irrigation contractors, and sports turf managers.

Don't miss this opportunity to exhibit and be a sponsor at the biggest event of its kind in the Heartland. Our attendees want to see your new products and equipment, so expand your exposure by purchasing more than one booth, or consider one of the mini-islands or large-island spaces outlined in the attached Exhibitor Information Kit. You'll want to make your reservation right away to assure your company a place.

**Be where your customers will be on December 15-16, 2009  
at the Overland Park Convention Center!**

We look forward to seeing you there.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Kim Weitzel, Executive Director, at 816.561.5323 or [kweitzel@swassn.com](mailto:kweitzel@swassn.com).



come, our greens went from being good straight to having brown rings covering them. Still trying to catch our breaths from the Spring rains and phone calls, we found ourselves needle-tining the greens late into the night and into the following morning. Two Prostar applications later we were able to put this issue to rest and were hoping to get back to some normalcy.

Easier workdays were not the case as the economy and lack of rounds applied a new pressure to our crew. "Watch your payroll hours" and "keep a close eye on your expenses" became familiar phrases. In time, "watch your payroll hours" changed to "no more overtime" and "keep a close eye on your expenses" changed to "save me thousands of dollars off of your remaining year expense budget". A couple of our seasonal workers volunteered to leave a couple of weeks early to save more money. I sensed that our remaining crew, myself included, were about to break. But like all other times, we managed to keep going.

Late August brought an early aerification date for our greens. The small crew could sense that after accomplishing this task, it would soon become a downhill run to winter. But, of course, the way this year went, something was bound to go wrong. A call for a chance of afternoon thunderstorms became a 9:00 am rain event, catching the aerifier and all others on hole #6. The rain lasted for over two hours and dumped over a half

an inch of rain on already soft greens. Since the course was closed for the day, the pressure to finish aerifying was felt. We finished as planned but in the process put large ruts in our greens from the weight of our tractor driving over it. Another mistake was made. I learned no matter how much pressure there is to complete aerification on the day scheduled, rain, soft greens, and tractors do not mix. A one day aerification event turned into a two week ordeal trying to get the greens back in shape. After many mowings, rollings, topdressings, and a verticut, the greens are close to being good again. The crew and I were once again left shaking our heads.

As the season draws closer to an end, I realize that '09 is not going to turn out the way that I had hoped. I also realize that I still do not know what I am doing sometimes. I know that 2010 will bring another year where I can learn from my mistakes and try again. There are two more things I know for sure; One, my crew deserves big raises for 2010 (highly unlikely), and two, the homeowners at Falcon Ridge are still watering their lawns!

# HOLIDAY PARTY

at the

## Overland Park Sheraton Hotel



December 4, 2009

6:00pm/Registration; 7:00pm/Dinner

## Thrown into the Driver's Seat

By Robert Evans Wilson

On June 29, 1863, a 23 year-old First Lieutenant received an unexpected promotion. The freckle faced, strawberry blonde, who graduated at the bottom of his class at West Point, was elevated directly to the rank of Brigadier General in the Union Army. He completely skipped over the traditional ranks in between of Captain, Major, and Colonel. As you can imagine such a promotion was met with skepticism, dismay, and envy by his former peers and superiors. Especially at a time when the South was winning against the North during the American Civil War.

Major General Alfred Pleasonton, who promoted the boy, saw his gamble put to the test just four days later in the Battle of Gettysburg. The young general was put in charge of the Michigan Cavalry and tasked with keeping Confederate General Jeb Stuart from attacking the Union Army's rear.

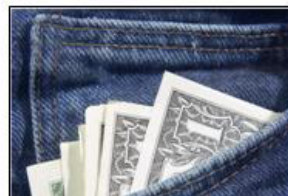
Was he up to the task? Could he keep that dubious star on his shoulder that so many wanted removed? Motivated by the desire to prove himself, George Armstrong Custer, his gleaming saber outstretched in front of him, led the cavalry charge and held the Union line. His successful leadership served as a crucial contribution to the battle that was the turning point in the North winning the war. When leadership is thrust upon us, many of us are motivated to rise to the occasion. Sometimes, however, leadership must rise in a vacuum. What motivates us to become leaders when there are none?

A few years ago, five friends and I went white water rafting for the very first time. We went on the upper Ocoee River in Tennessee where the rapids are rated Class Four. Not exactly the best choice for beginners, but we had a competent guide, who gave us plenty of instructions on when and how to paddle. He was so good that we were the only rafters in a group of ten rafts that did not capsize and get soaked.

Then halfway through our trip, we went over a small waterfall. When our rubber raft hit the bottom it bent in the middle and folded up like a book. When it sprung back apart our guide was catapulted from the boat and landed several feet behind us. As our leaderless raft sped forward, getting further and further away from our guide, five of us thought, "Uh, oh, what are we going to do!" Before we could panic, my friend Bill started barking commands, "Left side four strokes! Right side two strokes!" With great relief we followed his orders and within minutes he had us safely out of the rushing white water and into the calmer water by the river bank where our guide was able to catch up to us.

A leadership role can jump start motivation. When you have the responsibility of guiding others, it forces you to guide yourself first. I have found that volunteering for leadership roles at work and for non-profit organizations to be self-motivating. Back in the early 1990's, I had a particularly bad year. My mother passed away, a business venture failed, and I had a falling out with my best friend. Needless to say, I was in a funk, and seriously needed something to move me out of it. That's when I learned that my community association needed a new President. It was a huge job with a two year commitment that required fund raising, event planning, managing several committees, and supervising dozens of volunteers. It consumed tons of my time, but it also taught me that I could do more in a day than I ever knew. During that same two year period, I launched two new businesses both of which became success stories. As a manager, you can motivate your employees (or your volunteers) by giving them a mantle of leadership. Suddenly he or she will no longer be just another disaffected cog in the wheel. But with a position of responsibility, those persons will be empowered to do more and be more. Sure, it may require a greater effort on your part, but you will challenge their minds, expand their abilities, and imbue them with a sense of accomplishment.

*Robert Evans Wilson, Jr. is a motivational speaker and humorist. He works with companies that want to be more competitive and with people who want to think like innovators. For more information on Robert's programs please visit [www.jumpstartyourmeeting.com](http://www.jumpstartyourmeeting.com).*



### MONEY IN YOUR POCKET

The Heart of America GCSA is now accepting applications for the Employee Awards Program to help offset some of the cost of school for *those who are full-time employees taking turfgrass classes.*

Application and criteria can be downloaded from the website at:  
<http://www.hagcsa.org/employeeawards.htm>

Deadline is January 29, 2010.

# NATIONAL CONFERENCE



## National Conference & Trade Show

February 8-12, 2009

San Diego, CA

Information: <http://www.gcsaa.org/conference/default.aspx>



## HAGCSA Room Block:

Embassy Suites San Diego

Rate: \$219 (plus tax/fee)

Housing Form (inserted in Newsletter) or call 1.800.442.7220

Deadline: November 16, 2009



## Hospitality Suite (Networking)

February 10, 2009

8:00pm – 11:00pm

Hilton San Diego Bayfront (GCSAA Headquarters)

Room: Sapphire 400





# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

~ If you are applying for membership as a Superintendent, you **must** also be a member of the national association, Golf Course Superintendents Association of America.

Download an application at: [www.gcsaa.org](http://www.gcsaa.org) ~

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Club or Company \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse \_\_\_\_\_

Check here if you wish to receive your mailings at home.

## JOB INFORMATION: LIST CURRENT EMPLOYMENT FIRST

DATES EMPLOYED	EMPLOYER NAME AND ADDRESS	TITLE
From _____ To _____	_____	_____
From _____ To _____	_____	_____
From _____ To _____	_____	_____
From _____ To _____	_____	_____

I hereby make application for membership in the Heart of America Golf Course Superintendents Association and attach herewith my dues for the current year. If accepted, I agree to uphold the by-laws of this Association and subscribe to the following code of ethics. To the end that confidence and respect may be enjoyed by members of our Association, the code of ethics is promulgated and observation of its provisions required.

- Every member shall take pride in his/her work and regard it as a profession in which all members strive to maintain its good name.
- Realizing that the best asset that a member can have is thorough knowledge of his/her business, he/she shall constantly try to improve his/her knowledge and effectiveness by freely exchanging experiences and ideas with fellow members and take advantage of all opportunities for improvement.
- He/she shall endeavor to maintain courteous relations with his/her employer and his/her associates and endeavor to have his/her employees take pride in doing their work well.
- In accomplishing his/her own and the Association's best interest, observance of the following suggestions are recommended.
  - **Seeking Employment:** 1. Seek counsel of local associations when applying for a position in a new district; 2. Recommend only qualified GCSAA members; 3. Ascertain the wage scale in the district in which you are seeking employment, then uphold that talk with the person who last held or now holds the position of Golf Course Superintendent.
  - **Visiting:** 1. Present your HAGCSA or GCSAA membership card when visiting; 2. Always contact the Superintendent of the course you are visiting; 3. Honor requests for technical help from golf courses only when channeled through the Superintendent of the course making the request.

**Communication Consent:** I agree to receive notices, advertisements, announcements, brochures, and other information from Heart of America Golf Course Superintendents of America via facsimile, telephone or e-mail. I further agree that my express permission to fax, telephone or e-mail me such notices and other information will continue and have no date of expiration, unless a written request is received indicating a change in permission.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Attested \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Attested \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Please include Annual Membership Dues with Application:**  
**\$100 for Superintendents and Suppliers**  
**\$50 for Assistant Superintendents, Golf Course Employees and Students.**

OFFICE USE ONLY:  
 Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Approves: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Packet Sent: \_\_\_\_\_ Payment:: \_\_\_\_\_

**Heart of America Golf Course Superintendents Association**  
 P.O. Box 419264 • Kansas City • Missouri • 64141-6264 • 816-561-5323 • Fax 816-561-1991 • [www.hagcsa.org](http://www.hagcsa.org)