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Heart of America Chapter

GCSAA

GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

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Heart Beat

Volume 42, No. 7

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE HEART OF AMERICA GCSA

Sept. 2010

MISSOURI CUP CHALLENGE

OCTOBER 4-5, 2010

Camdenton, Mo.



Old Kinderhook Golf Club



Lake Valley Golf Club

- Stranger Than Fiction
- From the Other Side of the Desk
- Cell Phones, Gentlemen...
- Committee Reports

Heart of America Chapter
GCSAA
GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

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PRESIDENT'S Message

By: Doug Melchior



Not one superintendent will forget the Summer 2010, although we would all like too. This has been the toughest summer that I can ever recall and I am looking forward to some cooler days and nights. Hopefully, they are just around the corner. I have talked with many of our members and I must say how proud and honored that I am associated with such highly educated, professional, determined, and hard working individuals. The members of the HAGCSA are a small yet very tight fraternity that have withstood even the most adverse conditions. You all represent the HAGCSA with the utmost respect and dignity. The web and local media outlets have done a very good job of presenting the facts about turf conditions and issues that we have encountered during this treacherous season.

I would like to “Thank” the title sponsors of the 26th Annual Scholarship and Research Tournament. They were Greg King and Gary Breshears with Kansas City Turf Supply and Mike Kipper and Jon Dixon with Supreme Turf. Your involvement and generosity with the association is greatly appreciated. I would also like to “Thank” Brad Gray and his Mission Hills Turf Team for providing great course conditions for all of us to enjoy. The employee tournament was held at Winterstone Golf Course and I wanted to say “Thank You” to John Johnston and his staff for hosting the event. There was a good turn out for both events.

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, our professional image and the well being of the individual members and to unite golf course superintendents in the greater Kansas City area. This could not be more true than this summer. Once again, I am a proud member of such a great association. *Continued on page 9*

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MISSOURI CUP CHALLENGE

HAGCSA/MVGCSA

Old Kinderhook Superintendent Profile: Rusty Fuller has a Bachelor of Science degree from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale in turf. He also has a Master of Science degree in horticulture from the University of Missouri at Columbia. After his college years he worked for Turf Diagnostic & Design in Olathe, Kan. He then went to work for Bellerive Country Club in St. Louis and on to Boone Valley Golf Club as an assistant superintendent. After Boone Valley he was superintendent at Dalhousie Golf Club in Cape Girardeau and later at Dismal River Club in Mullen, Nebraska.

Lake Valley Superintendent Profile: Alex Hultz has a B.S. in management from Quincy University, Quincy IL 1993 and a B.S. in agronomy from SMS (now MO State) 1998. He worked in Quincy IL at Westview Golf Club 1985-1986, Fremont Hills Country Club, Springfield, Mo. 1994-1998, Far Oaks Golf Club in Casseyville, IL 1998-2000. He then ventured out and grew in Birch Creek Golf Club in Union, Mo. from 2000-2003 and has been at Lake Valley since March 2003.

Course History - Old Kinderhook: The Club at Old Kinderhook opened in May 1999 and is a Tom Weiskoph design.

Course History - Lake Valley Golf Club: Lake Valley is a semi-private, 18 hole championship golf course located near Camdenton, Mo. in the beautiful Lake of the Ozarks region. Designed in 1967 by Floyd Farley, the golf course offers a unique combination of six par threes, six par fours, and six par fives with a cumulative par of 36-36-72. Lake Valley features zoysia tees, lush Bermuda fairways and bent grass greens.

A registration form for the Mo. Cup Challenge is found on the next page.

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MISSOURI CUP CHALLENGE

HAGCSA / MVGCSA



DATE: October 4-5, 2010

LOCATION(S): **Lake Valley Golf Club** **Old Kinderhook Golf Club**
 367 Lake Valley Highway 54-80
 Camdenton, MO 65050 Camdenton, MO 65020

SCHEDULE: October 4, 2010 Lake Valley Golf Club
 11:00 a.m. - Registration
 12:00 p.m. - Shotgun (4 person scramble)
 5:30 p.m. - Dinner & Reception
October 5, 2010 at Old Kinderhook Golf Club
 8:00 a.m. - Registration
 9:00 a.m. - Shotgun (4 person scramble)

COST: \$130.00 (includes golf registration for both days and reception on Monday)
 \$25.00 Monday Reception Fee for each "guest" of a player

HOTEL RESERVATIONS: Please contact Old Kinderhook Golf Club to make overnight accommodations at 573-346-4444 ext. 3. Room charges are not included in golf registration fee. A special rate of \$115 for a 1 bedroom cottage, \$150 for a 2-bedroom, and \$190 for a 3 bedroom cottage has been arranged.

DIRECTIONS TO HOTEL: Old Kinderhook is located two miles west of Camdenton on Highway 54. Once you've crossed the Niangua Bridge, take the second right, which is Lake Road 54-80, and proceed to the entrance of Old Kinderhook.

Yes, I/we plan to attend the MO CUP CHALLENGE on October 4 & 5!

Player(s): _____ Company: _____
 _____ Company: _____
 _____ Company: _____
 _____ Company: _____

Guest(s) attending Reception at \$25.00 per person: _____

Yes, I/we plan to attend Monday's events. (We need this information for the reception headcount.)

Contact: _____
 Company: _____
 Address: _____
 Phone: _____ Email: _____

PAYMENT (Payment must accompany registration - First-come, first-serve bases. Limited to 36 teams.)

Check Enclosed Credit Card: No.: _____ Exp. _____
 Name on Card: _____
 Signature: _____

Complete Form and Mail, Fax or Email no later than **Friday, September 24th** to:
 HAGCSA . P.O. Box 419264 . Kansas City . MO . 64141-6264
 816-561-5323/phone . 816-561-1991/fax . www.hagcsa.org

FROM THE OTHER SIDE OF THE DESK

By Ken Harding, Special Director

I have been pondering for the last five days what to write for this article that might be insightful, helpful, educational and most importantly worthy of your time. I have walked in your shoes and know your concerns and worries very well. We can all agree this has been a tough season.

As I am penning this article it is 95 degrees and the humidity is high enough to make you cry! The night time temperatures haven't dropped below 75 degrees for almost three weeks. Your crew is tired of pushing up bunkers from the heavy rains that seem to come around every couple of days and your member/patron seems to have just the advice that you NEED to hear. These are the days that test a Superintendent's resolve. During these difficult times keeping your cool and a positive persona with your crew and patrons can be difficult but is desperately needed. Your positive outlook, game plans and earnest feelings can uplift your crew and assure golfers that you are in control of the situation. Everybody is in the same boat, battling similar issues, problems and uneasy feelings this time of the season.

I can tell you from experience that staying in touch with your network of fellow superintendents, friends, and salesmen can be a great help. Using such resources can be instrumental in finding solutions for many problems you may be experiencing. Another aid in keeping your sanity is visiting a different golf course other than your own. Call a superintendent and go visit him. Ask questions about the different things he may be doing and how he is combating the issues and problems that you both are experiencing on your golf courses.

You should also try to get away from your own course from time-to-time. "Re-charging your batteries" or whatever you want to call it is important to get through the rest of this difficult season. Take an evening, day or even a weekend to do something to get your mind away from the golf course. You may find yourself more energized to battle the problems of the day.

Closing on a positive note, by August 15th of any season, you should remember that you are only 20 to 30 days away from aerifying. The night time lows will soon be dropping to more forgiving temperatures. Fall renovation and repairing summer damages will be in full swing before you know it. Soon, your summertime blues will be replaced by everybody's favorite past time – MULCHING LEAVES and preparing for SNOW!



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Cell Phones, Gentlemen...

By Darin Pearson, Director

Going from a cell phone to a “smart” phone, not only am I able to be contacted anytime, but I can conduct other business outside of just talking. I have a “virtual” office right there in my pocket. No need to hang around the office for a reply to an email or phone call. I can do everything from keeping track of my appointments, to taking and sending pictures from the course. These devices are great tools when used wisely, yet can be a great distraction for ourselves or an annoyance to others, if we’re not careful. Chances are that we’ve never been properly instructed on the finer points of being a considerate cell phone user (even those of us whose mothers taught to be perfect gentlemen).

The following is from the book, “How To Be A Gentleman: A Timely Guide To Timeless Manners” by John Bridges:

“A GENTLEMAN DOES NOT USE HIS CELL PHONE...

- when he is behind the wheel of a vehicle of any type
- in the midst of a church service or during a theatre performance, a movie, or at a concert
- at a table in a restaurant of any type, be it fast-food or first-class
- in the waiting room, or in the examining room at a doctor’s office
- when standing in line at the grocery store, the post office, a deli, or any other place where customers may find themselves trapped as unwilling witnesses to his conversation
- in an elevator, unless he is alone, or in the company of only friends or coworkers
- in the workout room at his gym
- in the cabin of an airplane, unless some actual, dire emergency demands it
- in any place where signage, or a public announcement, notifies him that the use of cell phones is not permitted.”

As you may have noticed, the book doesn’t give advice for the gentleman and his cell phone while on the golf
Continued on next page



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Cell Phones, Gentlemen...
Continued from page 8

course. Many courses now have local rules prohibiting cell phone use during play, but we should always try to be considerate of others while on the course, both as golfers and as golf course staff. As a golfer, I have encountered slow play, which likely was the result of the person or persons, on the next hole chatting on their phone. As for the Alvamar Maintenance Dept. staff, we have a restricted use cell phone policy. Our employees are allowed to carry their phones with them and can only use it for work related issues and emergencies. Cell phones should never be visible to patrons and ring tones should be silenced. Staff is allowed to use phones at their scheduled break time at the maintenance facility.

Cell phones aren't going away any time soon, and neither should courtesy and consideration. We can still do our business with respect to others.

TOURNAMENTS REPORT

By Todd Bohn, Director

Wow, what a summer we have had to endure. I know many of you including myself are looking forward to the cooler temperatures and a chance to stop and catch our breath. The tournament schedule has been rather quiet lately due to our busy time of the year and our schedule. We are working on our annual Vendor Appreciation event that will be coming up in October. We will be getting the details out in the very near future so keep checking the website, Heartbeat and emails for the details.

President's Message

Continued from page 4

The Missouri Cup Challenge will be here soon, don't forget to sign up and the Vendor Appreciation Event will be in October. I hope everyone has a great fall and good luck to each and everyone of you. If you have any questions or concerns please call or email me. I can be reached at 913.897.3805.

Doug Melchior, HAGCSA President
doug.melchior@opkansas.org

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MEMBERSHIP REPORT

By Aaron Willing, Director

The HAGCSA membership is unparalleled in terms of support, friendship, and camaraderie, SO GET INVOLVED! There have been many additions to the HAGCSA membership. If you see a new face in the crowd, don't hesitate to introduce yourself. I would like to welcome and thank our most recent new members, Wayne Roberts, David Smith and Mike McMillin approved at the July Board of Directors meeting.

ATTENTION! CALLING ALL MEMBERS:

Is your clubs economic stability not allowing you to pay the dues for your assistant golf course superintendent, sales associates, or your friend down the street who is a golf course superintendent? Well, do we have a deal for you! If you are a first time member to the HAGCSA, join now at the regular cost and you will not have to renew until Jan. 1, 2012. Do your part to get assistant golf course superintendents, sales associates, neighboring golf course superintendents, golf course employees, or foremen involved in the HAGCSA. Also by taking advantage of this great opportunity, you can display to your club officials that you are being a good steward of thir finances. Act now and get your dues payment in to Kim Weitzel at the association office, 638 W 39th Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64111.



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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
- 2009 Matthew Delventhal

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
- 2009 Daryl Pearson

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
- 2009 Woody Moriarty

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: _____

Superintendent of the Year Award

Individual Nominated: _____

Reasons for Nominating: _____

Chester H. Mendenhall Award

Individual Nominated: _____

Reasons for Nominating: _____

Please submit your nomination to HAGCSA by OCTOBER 1, 2010.

P.O Box 419264 . Kansas City . MO . 64141

816-561-5323 . 816-561-1991 (fax) . kswank@swassn.com

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 3**. 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

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PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

By Jeff White, CGCS, Director

The PR Committee has been lying low lately. It is just too darn hot to be beating our drum lately. We just received word from GCSAA that our grant application was approved. The \$1500 in grant money goes to offset our costs associated with Midwest Sports Management (Brian Wright). The money covers half of our expenses involved with booth space at the golf show, radio spots, and publications associated with Midwest Sports Management.

The committee would like to expand our horizons in the future. If anyone has an idea to better promote our profession, help out a charity or other philanthropic acts please give me a call or email.

I hope everyone is hanging in there with this fight! Remember, it's only grass, we can grow more! I'm sure our vendors would love to sell more seed, sod and chemical. After all, they do an awesome job of supporting our needs, it's payback time for the past two "soft seasons" we had in 2008 and 2009. Stay cool!



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KC WEATHER FACTOR, 2010

By Eric Bickel

Editor's Note: After reading this stellar report composed by Eric for his Greens Committee, I couldn't help but feel that all of us should pass this valuable information on to our ownership and decision-makers!

Extreme heat and humidity have persisted for over four weeks. The wet conditions this spring coupled with the heat stress have combined for peak turf loss conditions. The cold spring and wet conditions (33" April through July) was not conducive to healthy deep root development. The cool season grasses have been surviving for the last six weeks off reserves in the root systems. Those reserves and the root systems have all but run out. In addition, high humidity has created constant high fungal disease pressure.

Dew points, temperatures, wind speed, and soil temperature are the key climactic factors which measure the stress associated with cool season grasses ability to perform its basic physiological functions, (respiration, photosynthesis, evapotranspiration). A brief summary of these factors, their critical values, and their occurrence follows for the period of June through Aug. 11.

Days with highs of 90 or above	37
Days with a low temperature above 70	43
Days with an average dew point above 70	46
Days with an average wind speed of 10 mph or less	65
Days in which soil temperatures have been above 86	52

When all five of these factors occur simultaneously at their critical values (highs & lows above 90 & 70 respectively, dew points above 70, soil temps above 86, and wind speed below 10), cool season grasses are in a state of full blown decline. There is no recover for that day. The plant can no longer perform its basic functions normally. Metabolic activity is sustained solely at the expense of the root system. When this occurs for extended periods of time little can be done to alleviate the issue.

Total days in which all five of these factors occurred simultaneously over the last 20 years, i.e.

	<i># of severe root decline days</i>									
<i>Year</i>	'90	'91	'92	'93	'94	'95	'96	'97	'98	'99
<i># of days</i>	5	8	1	3	2	14	5	10	12	17*
<i>Year</i>	'00	'01	'02	'03	'04	'05	'06	'07	'08	'09
<i># of days</i>	9	16	13	9	5	7	11	8	5	6

**1999 had the most consecutive days with 13*

• In 2010 this has happened 29 days, (this could hit 32 on Saturday, Aug. 14!)

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Stranger Than Fiction

By Tony Bertels



Tony Bertels, off to mow rough on back 9

I had a weird dream the other night. Actually, it started out as a nightmare. With scythe in hand, Marvin Davidson sends me out to hand cut par 5 roughs at Swope Memorial. *The really scary part is that the keg in my right hand contains stale domestic beer!* It seems that a hole had been ripped in the space-time continuum and I must bear witness to strange scenes around town. Jumping out of bed after my dream, I quickly jotted down all I could remember so that I could share my visions with you.



Judd Bearb demos greens mowers for new 9

As I recollect, Judd Bearb was ecstatic about the Schwin – Jacobsen merger and the opportunity to walk/ride his new greens at Loch Lloyd. “Them boys from Kansas Golf & Turf convinced me I could save lots of gas and keep the crew in shape!” *(I dreamed this one in color!)*



Richard Shumate showing off his latest and greatest

I found myself out at Drumm Farm begging Tim Nielsen to become Chapter Editor. He heard none of it, much too excited by the prospects of the new machine he had just purchased from Van Wall. “Look at those floatation tires, Tony! Shumate says that it would take at least .10” of rain before we would have to stop mowing. I guess we’ll have to find something else to do with the herd of sheep!” *I’m sure you’ll think of something, Tim.* **Continued on next page**

Stranger Than Fiction - cont.



Aaron Willing stops by Mission to show Brad Gray his woody

As alternate universes collide through the fabric of space and time, the next thing I knew I was transported to the shop at Mission Hills and witnessed a strange conversation between Brad Gray and Indian Hills Supt., Aaron Willing. I supposed they were talking about Aaron’s new company vehicle. Unimpressed by Aaron’s woody, Brad pulled out his bag which contained his hickory shaft and persimmon head. “I just had this re-gripped. Granted, you may not be able to ride it, but it certainly won’t slip out of your hands!” *I mercifully woke up and got a drink of water.*

Returning to bed shaken but not stirred, I quickly slipped back asleep. My strange dreams continued.



Tom Brown displays the versatility of Toro’s new Workman

I can’t fathom why my dream is riddled with equipment sales reps but I find myself in the presence of Brown, who is espousing the merits of his latest Toro utility vehicle. “With a payload capacity in excess of 50 lbs, this baby can haul and dump a day’s worth of manure from the horse stable.” *Well, what about the BS that usually comes with your sales pitch?* I wake up briefly to reflect on the machinery I have dreamt about and the similarities that it has with my own operating fleet at Swope.



Bryan Wood, Commercial Turf & Tractor ready to custom seed the rough

Picking up a slight taste of barbeque sauce, my dream quickly takes me to Milburn CC where Bill Maynard keeps a tight

Continued on next page

Stranger Than Fiction - cont.

rein on ol' Bingo while Bryan Wood deftly loads brougham seed into the hopper of his new-fangled Turfco Seed-a-Vator in preparation of reseeding Miburn's worn out turf. "Bingo is the best damned seeding mare in the industry," claims Wood. Maynard adds, "She's got perty eyes."



**JD 2150 tractor resting at Swope Memorial
(Not part of dream...reality! How'd that get in there?)**



Chris Finnerty, Supt. Wolf Creek CC

"I dare you to try to tip it over," boasted Chris Finnerty on his new riding bank mower. "This baby holds a hillside tighter than a pint glass in Eric Bickel's hand!" *Okay, this dream is getting really weird.* Finnerty not only has a coat and tie on, but there is nothing, I do mean nothing that has the tinsel strength as Bickel's grip on a Guinness!



Fancy Pants Moriarty, Supt. Blue Hills CC

If dreams of antique mowers weren't bad enough, my final stop through the portal found me at Blue Hills witnessing Woody Moriarty parading around in his new safety knickers purchased recently through Dave Poder and CCP Industries. "Dave assured me that all of my peers had ordered a set and I would be the odd duck out if I didn't!" *You may have just got off the bus, but it ain't your first trip to town, eh Woodrow?* **Continued on next page**

Stranger Than Fiction - cont.

They say that one's dreams are a reflection of some conflict or concern in the sub consciousness. Dr. Freud would have a field day. What could my strange dream actually mean? Is it my infatuation with my aging, sub-standard equipment or something much more sinister? Is it my hope that all of my peers bear the same cross? Then it came to me. I had eaten 2 jalapeños and a pint of Ben and Jerry's prior to going to bed. Thank God! For a minute there I thought some of my peers had been weighing heavily upon my mind. While many may cause mild indigestion, none are capable of making me dream strange dreams. *Although that bit with Gray and Willing was a tad disturbing!*

AWARD NOMINATIONS

Deadline: October 1, 2010

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 2010.

Complete the enclosed form and submit nominations no later than October 1, 2010. Recipients will be awarded at the Holiday Party on December 3, 2010.

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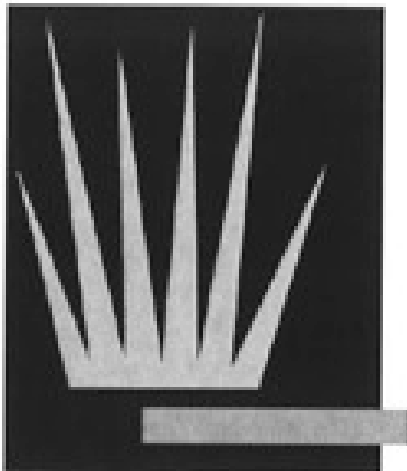
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COMMON GROUND REPORT

By Paul Davids, CGCS, Director

With any luck as you read this the “summer from hell” is over. I am sure we are all in the repair mode of maintenance on our courses. This is also the time to begin planning to attend the 2010 Heartland Green Industry Expo. The “Common Ground” conference is coming soon to the Overland Park Convention Center. The conference will be held Dec. 14 and 15 and will include a wide variety of topics including: Spanish, personal development, fairy ring, fertilizers, alternative energy sources, as well as a “Rule of Golf” presentation by the USGA.



Once again, you will be able to get credits for pesticide recertification for both Kansas and Missouri. There will be enough education to complete all needed requirements to re-certify for either state.

Many exhibitors have already reserved their booth space through the PRP program. There are still several great booths available so if you do not have your spot reserved, be sure to get yours selected before they are gone. There are sponsorship opportunities available if you want to be more involved with the conference as well.

There is no early registration gift for the conference this year but rather we will have more raffle items to give away. You will receive one raffle ticket when you register early and there will be an opportunity to purchase more of them at the conference. We plan to have several large ticket items for the raffle such as a large screen TV, and I-Pod, and even a lap-top computer. The raffle will be held during the reception on Tuesday, Dec. 14. Do not miss out ... plan to attend.

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GCSAA DELEGATE REPORT

By Jim Fitzroy, CGCS, GCSAA President

As you are aware, serving members through chapters has long been part of the GCSAA mantra. To assist in this effort, GCSAA had been continually adding resources to facilitate an enhanced relationship between the association and its chapters. We could not have done this without your support and feedback.

I am pleased to announce that the next step in this process is the expansion of the GCSAA Field Staff program. Communication regarding this news has been distributed to GCSAA Past President, and today will be shared with committee members and the membership at-large. GCSAA board members have also placed phone calls to each chapter president to share this news and to discuss the program.

The field staff program has, up until now, been a pilot program designed to help chapters utilize GCSAA programs and services to a fuller extent. Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive from chapters that have participated in the program. They report greater connection with GCSAA, an enhanced ability to utilize GCSAA programs and services, and access to additional resources to advance chapters in a strategic manner. Effective chapters provide high quality services and programs to the benefit of their members, their facilities, the game and the industry. They also help to facilitate the effectiveness of GCSAA. It's these results that have led directly to expanding the program.

In expanding the field staff program, we have divided the chapters into nine regions. Our goal is to eventually place a field staff representative in each region. After training field staff representatives, four regions of the country will be served by a resident GCSAA field staff representative beginning in mid-2011. We have not yet set target dates for staffing the other five regions.

The four regions are: Region 1 (Florida, which is already staffed); Region 5 (Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Wisconsin and Ohio); Region 7 (Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, New Mexico and Louisiana); and Region 8 (California, Hawaii, Nevada and Arizona). We selected the regions to be staffed in this first phase using "as-needed" criteria that included specific requests for regional support, a desire to balance field staff throughout the nation and available GCSAA resources.

Regions not immediately receiving resident field staff will continue to have access to GCSAA resources. Those chapters that have had field staff assigned in the past, but are not part of the first phase of expansion, will have access to those resources as well.

Having resident field staff resources in the ground will help chapters implement programs developed by GCSAA, and field staff will be a direct communication link back to the staff at headquarters to share the successful practices chapters have implemented. The program is designed to be mutually beneficial for the association as a whole and the chapters.

Continued on next page



James R. Fitzroy,
CGCS
GCSAA President



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GCSAA Delegate Report - cont.

This is a significant step for GCSAA. It was made possible in large part through the hard work and dedication of those chapters who helped us “experiment” in setting the stage for implementation of the program. If you know anyone who has interest in a field staff position, beginning Monday, Aug. 9 we will have a link posted on www.gcsaa.org/hr detailing the application and selection process.

On another subject, I am pleased that GCSAA continues to be a productive, responsive and efficient association during our period of transition. The board has been focused on providing oversight and direction to our staff. Our staff, under the direction of interim CEO Rhett Evans, has been wonderful in executing programs, delivering services and keeping GCSAA and its members positioned as leaders.

Among the topics discussed last month at the Summer Meeting of the GCSAA Board of Directors was the search for a new chief executive officer. The Board heard from three executive search firms and following the meeting selected one to guide the association in identifying candidates and ultimately selection a new CEO. The search firm will join the Board of Directors in a strategic planning session, Aug. 24-25 to solidify the criteria for the position. The position will then be posted on the GCSAA website and advertised in numerous publications and online resources. The Board’s desire is to identify a new CEO in 2010. More information will be provided to the membership as it becomes available.

If you have any additional questions about either the field staff program or the CEO search process, please feel free to contact me directly at jfitzroy@presidentsgc.com or via phone at 617-328-1776, ext. 301 or cell at 617-733-4438.



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The Archives

Circa 1990



Loren gladly accepts the \$100 winning check from J. Panter, president of KGCSA.

President "Babyface" Breedlove!



PAT FINLEN

Editor "Babyface" Finlen

Circa 2000



Supt. of the Year, Mark Pierce, 1999



Editor Jeff Elmer

MEETINGS AND PROGRAMS COMMITTEE REPORT

By Bill Irving, Director

The Meetings and Programs Committee has finalized plans for the 2010 Annual Meeting. It will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 2 at Blue Hills Country Club. Following the success of last year's Annual Meeting, golf and dinner will cost \$50. If you would like to attend the dinner only, it will be \$40. As a reminder, golf will be available only to those that are going to the meeting that evening - there will be no "golf only" opportunities for this event.

The committee is still trying to find a venue for the Holiday Party. We are trying to work with the newly renovated Arrowhead Club at Arrowhead Stadium or the Boulevard Brewery. We will announce the venue and date as soon as we finalize the location and other details for the event. It would be great to see everyone at these events!

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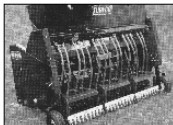
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SCHOLARSHIP AND RESEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT

By Duane Sander, CGCS, Director

The Scholarship and Research Committee has recently wrapped up another successful Scholarship and Research Tournament. The 2010 Tournament was held this year at the Mission Hills Country Club and a special thanks to everyone who was involved in setting up the tournament. The tournament was a huge success attracting 139 golfers and raising roughly \$9,405 at the live auction. Reindeers donated \$191 from their onsite raffle, the skins game collected \$520, the Tiger Woods Hole collected \$650, the Hole in One collected \$650, and the 50/50 Pot collected \$622. Overall around \$21,000 will go toward the Scholarship and Research Committee for the 2010-2011 year.

A big congratulations to our winners. In overall rankings, our first place winner was Creekmoor Golf Club, in second place was X-Green Turf and in third place was the Kansas Turf Foundation. Congratulations to Alvamar Country Club and Urban Tree Specialists for being the winners of the Skins Game. To Rick Blasi for winning Closest to the Pin and to Jeremiah Gates for Closest to the Hole.

Thanks again to Mission Hills Country Club and please make sure to mark your calendar for our 2011 Scholarship and Research Tournament at Hallbrook Country Club.



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Mission Hills Country Club hosted the 2010 S&R Tournament.



Scholarship & Research Tournament

Mission Hills Country Club

July 19, 2010



A hot, muggy, steamy start for the July 19 S&R Tournament.



139 golfers came through registration to collect their packets and tee gift.



Mission Hills fired up the grill for lunch.



Brad Gray, Host Superintendent



Duane Sander, CGCS, S&R Chairman



Tanna Guthrie, Auctioneer, helps boost giving at LIVE Auction.



Creekmoor Golf Club takes home the trophy.



Players enjoyed the reception & Live Auction.



We have some pretty smart cookies out there that will be entered into the 2010 Tony's Teasers drawing for (4) \$250 gift cards:

August Clue: Canine times
Answer: Dog Days

Here is a list of those that submitted a correct answer:

- Ryan Varns
- Paul Davids, CGCS
- Matt Delventhal
- Dylan Senn
- Jimmy Angelotti
- Bill Irving
- Brad Lackey
- Tim Nielsen
- Nick Kray

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.

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 3) to win**, so everyone better get in the spirit of the season! All members in good standing are eligible to enter.

September Teaser: Fortified Marijuana Shelter

Answer: _ _ _ _ _

Hint: *Take on this for a while...no hints!*

Mark Your Calendar



Oct. 4-5 - MO Cup Challenge

Nov. 2 - Annual Meeting

Dec. 3 - Holiday Party

Dec. 14-15 - Common Ground Conference





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The Un-Comfort Zone**GOOD HABIT – QUESTIONABLE MOTIVE****By Robert Evans Wilson**

I would like to share with you a story about my mom, a woman who was very insecure about her background. She grew up in a blue collar family where neither her mother or father finished eighth grade. Mom completed high school, but only with tutoring by my father. She would frequently say to me, “I was born on the wrong side of the tracks.”

At age 19, she married my father, the handsome son from a wealthy family. Her beauty and charm trumped all the debutantes in town, and swept Dad off his feet. She thought she had it made and that all her fears would go away. Money and position, however, would not erase her feelings of inferiority. Those feelings were intensified instead. The contrast between her education and her in-laws with professional degrees was intimidating.

Mom wanted to fit in, join the discussions, be an authority in her own right. In short, she wanted to feel important in her new family, and she realized that she needed more knowledge. Determined to find a way to reduce her education deficit, Mom threw herself into reading.

Any subject appealed to her at first, and over time she found her favorites and pursued them to excellence. One thing she had no time for was fiction.

It was a habit that served her well, and in 1960 paid off in a big way. That year my dad was diagnosed with kidney failure and given less than a year to live. There was no cure, and my parents were advised to start planning for the day he would die.

Three years old at the time, my recollections are that my strong Daddy could no longer pick me up and carry me. That he did not go to work very often and spent his days in bed. I noticed Mom took over all the driving and occasionally pulled off the road so Dad could vomit.

Mom and Dad sold their house and used the proceeds to buy a four-unit apartment house with the plan that Mom, my sister and I would live in one unit and live off the rents of the other three. The plan was for my mother to work part time until my sister and I were old enough for school, then she would work full time. Until Dad's illness, she had been a stay home Mom.

After high school, Mom trained as an x-ray technician, but had not worked in years. She began to take temp jobs to beef up her skills and to develop a network of potential employers when the inevitable day arrived.

At one of those early temp jobs, the x-ray machine broke. An extended period of down time ensued, and Mom went to the magazine rack in the doctor's lobby for something to read. She passed over the popular magazines of the day after finding an out-of-date medical journal. “This looks like something good for my mind!” she thought.

In an article about physicians in Boston conducting experimental surgery, she learned of the world's first kidney transplants. At the time of the writing, the doctors were looking for volunteers. Her pulse quickened. As she read on, she discovered there was a prerequisite. The volunteers had to have an identical twin. Dad happened to have an identical twin.

At that point Mom ran to the nearest phone and dialed Boston until she got one of those doctors on the line. “Yes, he replied, “we are still looking for volunteers. Send me your husband and his brother.” That night they went to visit my Uncle Ralph, who said, “To save your life, absolutely! Yes, you may have one of my kidneys.”

I share this story because Mom developed a lifelong habit of reading non-fiction because she wanted to impress her in-laws and other people who intimidated her. In the end, her habit saved my dad's life. He became the 12th person in the world to have a kidney transplant and live. And, I got Dad for 18 more years.



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.

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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.

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Editor's Column



Don't say I didn't warn you! As I recapped an amazingly blissful season last year, I ended with the following: *"Unfortunately, my theory goes on to state that El Pinta will be immediately followed by El Santa Maria, a weather pattern sure to make our lives very interesting in 2010. Not wanting to be a fear monger or anything, but a El Santa Maria season is a lot like the Christmas season. Sooner or later there is going to be a tree inside your house! I will alert you to its signs and effects as it plays itself out next season. Until then, enjoy the results of El Pinta, rest up and get prepared!"*

Okay, Hindsight is easy. The first sign of trouble came in the form of a very cool, wet spring in which zoysia patch flourished with a vengeance. We blew quite the wad trying to check it before finally deciding to wait for warmer weather. Sure enough, it came!

With no real moderation to speak of, we skidded right into hot and humid. June, July and August can be described in one, simple word; DISASTROUS! Cool season turf, spoiled by Northern California weather, took it on the chin as the mercury and humidity climbed and never really came down. Poa annua died faster than a Brody Croyle spiral flung into a gentle headwind. Yellow nutsedge sprang from the earth in a plague far greater than anything Moses unleashed upon his Egyptian foes. My Dimension application parted like the Red Sea itself, allowing weedgrass to invade like a Mongol hoard. My greens which showed so much promise in early June puked up all over themselves with the evil onslaught that *El Santa Maria* waged. Course conditions were the absolute worst that I have been responsible for in all my years in this business. I won't be holding out for Superintendent of the Year! It was an unmitigated disaster for which I never really found an answer. One can never really fool Mother Nature.

I would assume that my words ring true for many of you. I only hope that you all did a good job in communicating your plight to your decision makers. As news trickled in that I was not alone, that the entire area was being affected by bad mojo, I opened up a line of communication to ownership. I forwarded Megan Kennelly's reports and blogs up the chain. I faxed them regional articles and GCSAA appraisals on the situation. I wrote truthful reports on course conditions and outlined steps that we were taking to try and hang on. I did my best to inform them of everything that we were experiencing. I wanted no one blind sided. Seth Gordon, author and marketing expert once wrote, *"The less people know, the more they yell."* I was yelling enough for everybody!

As I write this column in early August for a September publishing, I can't help but worry that someone may lose a job over this dreadful year. Hell, it might possibly be me! Effective, concise communication is a key when things don't go as planned and it is paramount that you convey it well. In an economy and season like we are experiencing, you can't rest on past performance. Memories tend to become short and clouded when the chips are down.

"The difference between the right word and the almost right word is the difference between lightning and the lightning bug." – Mark Twain

**Tony Bertels,
Editor**

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FUNCTION FORECAST

DATE

October 4-5

November 2

December 3

December 14-15

EVENT

MO Cup Challenge

Annual Meeting

Holiday Party

Common Ground Conference



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