

# Tee to Green

Official Newsletter  
of the



July  
2011



**It's time to make your nominations**

**Who will you choose to join Terry Gill,  
Randy Samoff and John Walker  
as recipients of the STGCSA**

**Sonny DuBose Superintendent of the Year Award?**

**Superintendent/Pro Member/Member  
Tournament headed for  
the Traditions Club at Texas A&M**

**see page 5**

**Household hazardous waste disposal options**

**see page 6**

# 2011 Superintendent/Pro Member/Member Tournament

**Monday, July 18, 2011**

The Traditions Club at Texas A&M, 3249 Founders Drive, Bryan, TX 77807

Host Superintendent: Jesse Shulse

**Registration:** 11:00 a.m. **Dinner:** Following Golf **Cost:** \$275 per team

**Golf (12 noon Shotgun Start):** 10-4-4 Format (par 4s - scramble, par 5s - alternate shot, par 3s - best ball)

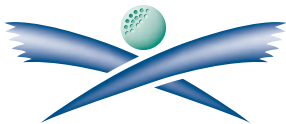
Please RSVP by July 16 by calling Marian Takushi at 281-494-0094, by e-mail at [stgcsa@windstream.net](mailto:stgcsa@windstream.net) or through the direct link on the "Upcoming Events" page of [www.stgcsa.org](http://www.stgcsa.org).

### ***Directions to The Traditions Club at Texas A&M:***

- From Houston, take Hwy. 290 to Hempstead. From Hempstead, take Hwy. 6 North to Bryan/College Station.
- As you approach College Station, take Texas 6 Business into College Station. and merge onto S. Texas Ave.
  - Go .7 miles and turn left onto FM 2818/harvey Mitchell Pkwy.
  - Go 6 miles and turn left onto North Traditions Dr.
- Go 1.8 miles and turn left on Hickory Ridge Circle. Go .5 miles and turn right toward Founders Dr., then go .1 miles and turn left onto Founders Dr. to the club.

## ***Coming Up Next!***

**August 8 — Sand Hill Farm Golf Club**



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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It's July . . . the year is half over and we're still waiting on the Spring thunderstorms that never came. It's hard to believe the calendar's pages are flipping so quickly and even harder to believe we've reached this point with so little rain.

Relief for that situation, however, might be on the way. Even as I write, there are clouds in the sky and rain over the horizon. Rain chances for the next several days are as high as 50 percent, so maybe by the time you read this column, we'll have gotten a little natural help.

It will take more than one dousing to eliminate the problem, but you gotta start someplace, right?

My new duties at Cypress Lakes prevented me from attending our June meeting at Wildcat Golf Club (and playing in the Chapter Championship), but I can feel things settling down and my routine returning, even if slowly, to normal. Even so, we've got a good grapevine, and I heard Ben Fultz and the Wildcat team put on an outstanding event for us.

If I wanted to tempt fate, here's where I'd really take a shot at Mother Nature, who decided to provide a little tease the day of our meeting. The storm clouds and lightning resulted in a somewhat shortened final round of the Championship.

"Shortened" doesn't mean "cancelled," though, and everybody had the same opportunity to play. I say, "Congratulations!" to the winners, and wish you the best luck possible at the upcoming Texas Trophy.

We have some exciting golf still coming up this summer, starting with our Superintendent/Pro and Member/Member tournament, to be held this year (July 18) at The Traditions at

Texas A&M. It is right around the corner, so if you haven't already, put together a team and get signed up!

We are having an extra meeting this year, and it will take place Aug. 8 at Sand Hill Farms Golf Club. Brian Johnson and the Mustang Cat group have graciously agreed to host us for the meeting. If you haven't seen that facility, you are missing out. It is truly a top-notch 9-hole facility with a beautiful clubhouse and meeting room. Get signed up early for that one because there will be limited space available for golf. First to sign up, first to play!

Also, don't forget that the Texas Trophy is straight ahead in September. The dates and venue have changed from what was originally announced— it will be hosted by the North Texas Golf Course Superintendents Association at the Golf Club at Fossil Creek in Fort Worth on September 18-19. It's never too early to start planning for that event, so get busy.

Mid-summer means another school year isn't far off, and that means it's time to start thinking about Legacy Scholarship applications. If you have a college student who needs financial help (what student doesn't?), please make sure his or her applications are submitted on time and correctly.



Wade Warm, CGCS

continued on page 8

### 2011

## South Texas Golf Course Superintendents Association Officers, Board of Directors and Staff

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Doug Browne, Terry Gill, John Walker

Now is the time for all good people to play a role in the South Texas Golf Course Superintendents Association's newest

tradition. That would be of, course, the selection of the Chapter's Sonny DuBose Superintendent of the Year.

This year will mark the fourth time the STGCSEA has so honored one of its members with an award created and named in honor and memory of one of the STGCSEA's founding members and a man who had a lasting and positive effect on the profession and his fellow superintendents.

Terry Gill, Johnny Walker and Randy Samoff were the recipients of the award in 2008 through 2010. Each of those men fulfilled the purposes for which the award was created . . . to honor both the award's namesake and superintendent who have made significant and continual contributions to the industry and the Chapter. There is no doubt the Chapter's 2011 selection will continue building on that foundation.

"This award is special because of the man it is named for, the men who have won it, and the fact that, in the end, the recipient is chosen by his peers," said Cole. "It's also important to note that initial nominations are made by facility owners, general managers, Greens Committee chairmen and golf professionals, as well as by a nominees fellow members."

## Who's your pick?

"In other words, nominations are made by those for and with whom we work, and can be taken as an indication of respect

earned by those nominated," added Cole.

The nomination process has begun. Nominations may be made by the general managers and head golf professionals at golf facilities throughout the Chapter's geographical territory, and, where appropriate, to the chairmen of Greens Committees. The forms needed to submit nominations were mailed to people in those positions at facilities throughout the STGCSEA's geographical area on June 24.

Any STGCSEA member in good standing may submit a nomination. Please keep in mind, however, that all eligible nominees must be STGCSEA members in good standing, have been members of the STGCSEA for a minimum of five consecutive years and must not have previously won the award.

The STGCSEA's Public Relations Committee, led by Chairman Brandon Cole, will then review the nominations. After selecting a set of finalists, Cole and the past winners will then visit each finalist's facility for a tour and interview. The information gained from those visits and the respective nomination letters will then be presented to the STGCSEA's members during the Chapter's 2011 Annual Meeting.

The members will then vote for their choice as the recipient of the 2011 award, and the honor will be announced during a presentation ceremony at the 2011 STGCSEA Awards Banquet and Awards Ceremony in December.

A nomination form will be posted on the home page of the Chapter web site ([www.stgcsa.org](http://www.stgcsa.org)). The deadline for submitting a nomination will be Sept. 30, 2011.

"Five well-deserving superintendents were nominated last year and the number seems to be growing every year," Cole said. "A few nominations came in after the deadline last year, so it's important that you make sure your management submits nominations on time."

Please take time to submit your choice for the award and help recognize one of your fellow members.

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## Off . . . to Aggieland!

*Jesse Shulse hosting STGCSA  
Superintendent/Pro Member/Member tourney*

For obvious reasons, the STGCSA doesn't often travel far from the Houston area for its monthly meetings. When it does, you can be sure the occasion and location are special, and that's just the case this month when the Chapter will hold its annual Superintendent/Pro Member/Member Tournament, which will take place

July 18 at The Traditions Club at Texas A&M in Bryan.

Designed by Jack Nicklaus and Jack

Nicklaus II opened in 2003. The home course for Texas A&M University's men's and women's golf teams, The Traditions recently hosted the 2011 NCAA Women's Golf National Championship tournament.

The par-72 course stretches to 7,146-yard championship yards laid out over rolling terrain, through hardwood forests and along and over many natural creeks and wetlands. Strategically-placed bunkers add to the layout's defenses and let you know where the Nicklaus' intended your ball to land.

Jesse Shulse, younger brother of past STGCSA President Justin Shulse, is the golf course superintendent at The Traditions. Born in Germany, Shulse is a 2004 graduate of Texas A&M. His career began at River Ridge Golf Club, where he spent his collegiate summers working for his brother. He also interned at Lochinvar and Champions Golf Clubs and with the USGA during his college years.

He was an assistant superintendent at Champions under Charles Joachim, GCGS, for several years prior to moving to Aggieland (along with his wife, Melody, daughter Ryleigh (4) and son Wesley (2)) to take the top spot at The Traditions.




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## Out of Bounds: Household hazardous waste disposal options

By Dr. Anthony Camerino

Batteries, oil filters, computer monitors, and fluorescent light bulbs are just a few examples of products that are common household hazardous waste.

With over 4 million people in Harris County alone, the disposal of household hazardous wastes can pose a significant environmental risk.

The average American disposes of 15 pounds of household hazardous waste per year. When these items make their way to the landfill, they can contaminate ground water and surface water.

So what do I do with all the junk that I know should not go into general trash collection? There are a number of options available in the Houston area. Go to the following link for locations and contact information: <http://www.cleanwaterways.org/HHW/collection.html>.

Another interesting option I discovered is the "Resource Exchange Network for Eliminating Waste" (RENEW). RENEW is a free materials-exchange network created in 1987 by the Texas Legislature. Basically, the website is a listing of wanted and available materials. Briefly looking at the site I found that I could become the proud owner of pure ethanol, potash, nonvolatile condensation products, cotton gloves, and bricks (if I so desired). If you'd like to take a look at it, the address is <http://www.zerowastenetwork.org/renewdev/>.

A final website you may want to visit is <http://www.freecycle.org/>. This non-profit volunteer-based network is for the exchange of all types of items.

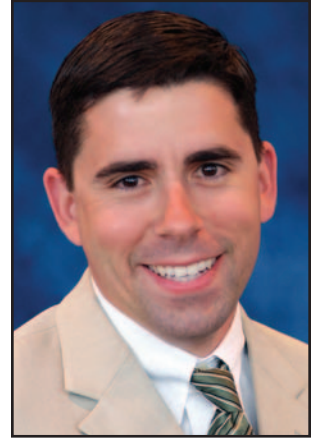
The website is searchable by location. While this site does not specialize in household hazardous waste, it does have many different items from TV's to furniture, to books.

To read more about this subject, please visit this website:

<http://www.cleanwaterways.org/HHW/>

<http://www.tceq.texas.gov/p2/hhw/contacts.html#harris>

*Dr. Anthony Camerino is a  
Commercial Horticulture Agent with the  
Texas AgriLife Extension – Harris County Office.*



*Dr. Anthony Camerino*

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## Opening new doors

I had the opportunity to speak at the International Urban Wildlife Conference in Austin on May 24 2011. The conference was attended by people from 33 states and 11 countries, according to Keith Crenshaw, one of the directors.

Keith is a wildlife biologist located in the Houston area. He is associated with the superintendents' Audubon program for the state of Texas and was influential in securing my attendance and speaking opportunity.

As we reach out in the vast "Green Industry," we meet new people who open new doors for us, and that can help spread the word about superintendents and others that care about our planet and environment.

Speaking in the "untraditional" category gave me and others a demonstration of where we stand in the process. I would like to call it "opening doors" with small steps that can elevate our public perception.

Using terms like "science-based" and "value on education," we can open the eyes and minds of some of our "naysayers" and critics. I know it may seem like a small step, but when only 10 percent of the country's population plays golf and the other 90 percent might not even care, we need to educate at

continued on page 9



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## Turfgrass Field Day . . . Free!

The Texas AgriLife Extension Service will conduct a free Turfgrass Management Practices Field Day focusing on "Rollers and Mowing Heights" on Aug. 23 at Wildcat Golf Club.

The agenda for the meeting, which will run from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m., includes presentations and open discussion about mowing height and turfgrass health, rolling for green speed and true ball rolls (presented by Dr. David Chalmers, a professor in Texas A&M University's Department of Soil and Crop Sciences), measuring for ball speed and demonstration of measuring ball speed, followed by a demonstration of rollers (by Brookside Equipment Sales and Luber Brothers).

Registration for the gathering is being handled by the South Texas Golf Course Superintendents Association through the Chapter web site (on the "Events/Results" page). Questions about the event can be directed to Dr. Anthony Camerino (281-855-5600, awcamerino@ag.tamu.edu) or Ben Fultz (713-413-3400, bigben\_baz@yahoo.com).

GCSAA Continuing Education Units will be presented to attending members.

## STGCSA Chapter Championship Past Winners

2002	Mike Yarotsky	2007	Joe Anderson
2003	Travis Klosterboer	2008	Mark Haven
2004	Mark Haven	2009	Stan Ludwick
2005	Alan Hess	2010	Chris Webster
2006	Doug Ashley		

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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There are guidelines and criteria for the scholarships that will be strongly adhered to by the Scholarship Committee. Please make sure that you are aware of the criteria! I don't want to see anyone get denied a scholarship because of a technicality.

Lastly, you probably know that Tom Werner is now the golf course superintendent at Las Colinas Country Club in north Texas and will be moving out of the south Texas area. I think I speak for most everyone when I say that he will be missed!

His departure leaves a position on our Board of Directors open. If you are interested in filling that spot for the next few months, please feel free to call me or any other Board member to talk about it.

— Wade Warmes, CGCS

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# South Texas Chapter GCSAA

## Chapter Championship



### Final Results

Months of planning go into setting up a golf tournament, none moreso than the STGCSA's Chapter Championship. When Mother Nature decides to intervene, however, there's not much to be done about it.

After month's of very little rain, storm clouds threatened the locale of Wildcat Golf Club, host site of the Championship's final round, and when lightning began to flash, play came to a grinding halt.

In the end, the delay was less than an hour long, that was enough to chase a large group of golfers home for the day.

Play resumed with a very short field and only a handful of golfers managed to finish the second round. Complete results can be found within the "Events/Results" page of [www.stgcsa.org](http://www.stgcsa.org).

The top golfers in each flight are listed below. Congratulations are due all those who "stuck it out," and to the winners,

with a special pat on the back to Chris Webster, who is the STGCSA Chapter Champion for the second year in a row.

#### Championship Flight

Chris Webster 77-81--158  
Mark Haven 83-84--167

#### First Flight

Pat Johnston 83-85--168  
Sean Wilson 88-83--171  
Tracy Samuelson 92-82--174

#### Second Flight

Ed Schultheis 86-92--178 \*  
Steve Vaughn 92-86--178  
Mark Baughman 93-88--181  
\* scorecard playoff

#### Third Flight (Handicapped)

Kevin Brown 68-66--134  
Doug Shamp 74-75--149  
Kevin White 82.1-73.0--155.1

### Special Contests

#### Contest

Long Drive (Champ. & First Flights)  
Closest-to-Pin (Champ. & First Flights)  
Closest-to-Pin (Second & Third Flight)  
Long Drive (Second & Third Flight)

#### Winner

Danny Atchison  
Chris Webster  
Lee Gravett  
Kevin Lyles

South Texas Chapter  
**GCSAA**  
GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

## STGCSA Legacy Scholarships

For our future and your kids. If you have a youngster who will be attending college this fall, be sure he or she applies for a 2011 STGCSA Legacy Scholarship. Applications will be available at all the STGCSA's monthly meetings through August. The deadline for submitting an application is Sept. 1, 2011. Act soon and make sure the STGCSA has the chance to help with your child's education.

### OPENING NEW DOORS

continued from page 7

every opportunity.

The members of the Lone Star GCSA, the South Texas GCSA and others in our wonderful business of golf will get involved if we give them the opportunity. No one is better equipped than we are to spread the word about our value to the business through our actions every day.

I will leave you with these thoughts and hope you'll use them as benchmarks for your efforts to educate . . . "Your work has value. That value is defined by others, but don't let others dictate your future."

— Bob Cook CTP

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*The STGCSA Bulletin Board is available for use by all STGCSA members. Call Steve Hunter (281-395-4927) before the 5th of each month to include your job listings, etc., in the following two issues of Tee to Green. To include your job posting on the STGCSA web site, contact Marian Takushi (stgcsa@windstream.net, 281-494-0094). More complete details about many of the positions listed here can be found within the "Jobs" pages of www.stgcsa.org.*

## MEMBER MOVES

*Nick Inberg* is on the job as a Golf Sales Representative for Target Specialty Products. The newest addition to the STGCSA membership roster is *Thomas Brown*, who is an assistant superintendent at Redstone Golf Club.

*Kody Key* is now an Account Representative for Turf Materials, and *Lee Smith* has taken a Turf and Agronomic Sales position at Ewing Irrigation.



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## 2011 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### July 10-12

Texas Turfgrass Association Conference & Show  
Hyatt Lost Pines Resort — Bastrop

### July 18

The Traditions at Texas A&M  
*Superintendent-Pro Tournament*  
Host Superintendent: Jesse Shulze

### August 8

Sand Hill Farm Golf Club  
Host Superintendent: Brian Johnson

### September 18-19

Lone Star Texas Trophy  
The Golf Club at Fossil Creek — Fort Worth

### October 11

Meadowbrook Farms Golf Club  
*Member/Guest Outing*  
Host Superintendent: Brian Buckner, CGCS

### November 8

Ravens Nest Golf Club  
*2011 STGCSA Annual Meeting*  
Host Superintendent: David Gray

### December 12-14

Texas Turfgrass Association Annual Conference  
San Antonio Convention Center

## Thanks!!!

The STGCSA and its membership wishes to extend its gratitude to the staff at Wildcat Golf Club, and especially to Ben Fultz, golf course superintendent, for hosting the Chapter's June Meeting and the final round of the 2011 STGCSA Chapter Championship.



The hospitality and professionalism displayed by the club's staff was instrumental to a highly-successful gathering, and did not go unnoticed.

For additional details about each monthly meeting and golf outing, please visit the "Upcoming Events" page of [www.stgcsa.org](http://www.stgcsa.org).

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