

# Tee to Green

Official Newsletter  
of the



June  
2011



**WILDCAT**  
GOLF CLUB



**Wildcat Golf Club**  
Host Site of the Final Round  
of the  
**2011 STGCSA Chapter Championship**

**Harvey Rose was “bigger than life”**  
*see page 5*

**Ben Fultz is taking on an active role**  
*see page 7*

# June Meeting

## Chapter Championship Second Round

**Monday, June 6, 2011**

Wildcat Golf Club, 12000 Almeda Road, Houston, Texas 77045

Host Superintendent: Ben Fultz

**Registration:** 9:00 a.m. **Meeting:** 10:00 a.m. **Lunch:** 11:00-11:45 **Cost:** \$55

**Meeting Speaker:** Dr. Anthony Camerino, County Extension Agent  
Texas AgriLife Extension Service Harris County

**Golf (12 noon):** Stroke Play (following lunch)

Please RSVP by June 3 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 Wildcat Golf Club:*

- From Loop 610 South, between Fannin and Hwy. 288, go south on Almeda Rd./FM 521.
- Go 2.8 miles, turn right on Clover Lane and follow to clubhouse.

## *Coming Up Next!*

July 18

The Traditions Club at Texas A&M

2011 Superintendent/Pro or Member/Member Tournament

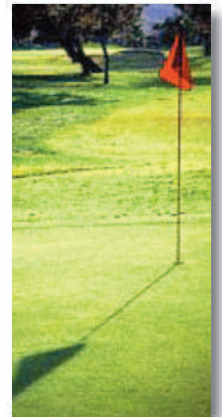


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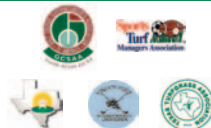
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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I'm certainly not the first to benefit from my membership in the South Texas Golf Course Superintendents Association, and just as certainly, I won't be the last. Even so, I think my story is a worthy reminder of why membership in our association is so valuable.

As you probably know, I was terminated from my position at The Golf Club at Cinco Ranch last month. I'd be the first to admit that my separation from the place I'd worked throughout the new century left me drifting for a few days. And then, thanks to the STGCSA network, I opportunities came to light.

Long-time members Nick Inberg, Bob Ducote, Willy Plowman, Jeff Jowell, Sean Wilson (and several others that I don't have the space to name) came to my aid both in landing a job at Cypress Lakes Golf Club as well as helping me get off to a good start in my new position.

I might have gotten the position even if I had not been a member of our Chapter, but the help of a few friends sure didn't hurt. Additionally, my transition has gone so much smoother with the help of the many friendships that I have created through the STGCSA.

In the end, the STGCSA has a number of purposes, but it is in the area of networking where I believe it excels. Through our interaction with our fellow members during our meetings and outside them, we all have the opportunity to build the kind of network that often results in quick resolution to problems like the one I was faced with. It's often said that no man is an island, and that saying is just as accurate within our pro-

fessional careers as it is in our personal experiences.

To those who helped with my speedy transition, I'd like to say thanks— you have my gratitude. And to those who haven't yet experienced the true value of membership in the STGCSA, I'd say wait . . . your day will come. Hopefully not in the manner I just encountered, of course, but your day will come.

One of the "other" values of our Chapter comes in the form of our after-meeting golf outings.

Last month and this, for instance, we're settling our annual Chapter Championship. Thanks to the circumstance described above, I didn't get to attend the May Meeting and play in the tournament's first round, but from all reports, it's off to an outstanding start, and I want to take a moment to thank host superintendent Jeff McCrory and the staff at Quail Valley Golf Course for welcoming us to Missouri City with open arms.

We'll complete the tournament at Wildcat Golf Club this month and I know Ben Fultz will have his facility ready for the test. If you're one of those still in contention for the title, I wish you the best, and I wish I were playing with you.



Wade Warmes, CGCS

continued on page 6

2011

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

#### President

Wade Warmes, CGCS

#### Executive Director

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FAX: 281-494-0094

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*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.

## GCSAA Member Savings

The GCSAA has partnered with a number of trusted companies, including Nike Golf, JoS. A Bank Clothiers, Zones and Corporate Clothier, to offer its members exclusive savings on a variety of personal and professional products. For complete details, please visit [www.gcsaa.org/mc/MemberSavings.aspx](http://www.gcsaa.org/mc/MemberSavings.aspx)

## MEMBER MOVES

*Wade Warm*s, CGCS, is the new golf course superintendent at Cypress Lakes Golf Club.

*Steve Holley* has taken on a regional golf course superintendent assignment for Valleycrest Golf Course Maintenance and *Chris Pitts* is the new golf course superintendent at Beacon Lakes Golf Club.

*Johan Sagermark* has joined the sales team at Brookside Equipment Sales, and *Jason Ruple* is now a sales consultant with Turf Technologies.

*Mark Gillock* is the new territory sales manager for Luber Brothers.

**facebook**

## A new way to communicate

A Facebook page for the STGCSA has been established at:

[www.facebook.com/pages/South-Texas-Golf-Course-Superintendents-Assoc-Inc/101764546536242](http://www.facebook.com/pages/South-Texas-Golf-Course-Superintendents-Assoc-Inc/101764546536242)

Visit it, friend us and you'll have a new way to find out what's going on with the STGCSA!

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## Harvey Alister Rose, II

November 20, 1954 — April 29, 2011

The South Texas Golf Course Superintendents family and the game of golf in southeast Texas lost a beloved member on Apr. 29, 2011, when Harvey Rose passed away at Clear Lake Regional Medical Center.

Born Nov. 20, 1954, in Ogden, Utah, Harvey was a lifetime resident of Galveston County. He had lived in Alvin for the past two years.

Brent Ratcliff, a sales representative for Ameriturf, Inc., and a long-time member of the STGC-SA, was one of Harvey's closest friends.

"Harvey and I go back to 1990, when he became one of my first customers in the business," said Ratcliff. "He was one of the best duck hunters I ever met . . . he just loved it."

"Harvey was bigger than life," said Ratcliff. "He was just always happy. He was just an all around good guy. I miss him already."

An avid golfer from the age of 7, he had been in the golf industry for 35 years. He was a member of the STGC-SA for 32 years.

Harvey served as president of the STGC-SA in 2004; he had served on the Chapter's Board of Directors for four years prior to his election to the presidency. A Certified Golf Course Superintendent, Harvey was the golf course superintendent at the time of his passing, a position he had held for well over a decade.

Harvey was a member of Mission Rodeo Church in Alvin and enjoyed hunting and fishing. His love of nature and sports continued with his memberships to the Audubon Society, Gulf Coast Conservation Association, Club Corp of America. He served as the Chairman of Texas Ducks Unlimited of Santa Fe/Hitchcock for 10 years.

Survivors include his loving wife of almost 22 years, Alecia Ballard Rose of Alvin; children, Brouke Rose-Carpenter and husband, SGT. Arthur W. Carpenter IV, USMC, Kendal Rose and fiancé, Michael Fleming of Alvin, Dwayne Ryder and wife, Misty of League City; grandchild, Rex William Rose Carpenter; one grandson on the way, Joel Patrick Rose Carpenter; numerous nieces and nephews; one he considered a daughter, Amber Armbruster of Santa Fe, and many friends who thought of him as a brother, father or grandfather.

"The seeds for today's STGC-SA were planted at those early and austere meetings by professionals who cared—you and I are reaping the rewards. Question is, who is going to plant the seeds of continued growth for future superintendents? You, maybe."

— Harvey Rose, June 2004



Harvey Rose, CGCS



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## A note of appreciation

All of us with the PGA TOUR wish to extend our thanks to all who contributed in countless ways to ensure the success of the 2011 Shell Houston Open by providing such a wonderfully conditioned course, excellent operations, and such outstanding hospitality.



The condition of the course drew praise from players, television commentators, and the staff of the PGA TOUR, to name a few. Specifically, of course, thanks go to the ownership and management of the Redstone Companies, and to Randy Samoff and his staff at Redstone Golf Club.

Thanks go as well to Johnny Walker and his staff from Blackhorse, and Tom Werner and his staff from the Houstonian and ShadowHawk. Of course, the Houston Golf Association must be recognized for many things, but specifically in this context, for its support in raising the bar toward excellence in course conditioning.

Also, thanks to the vendors, volunteers, and interns who supported and underpinned the success in many ways.

Finally, a special thanks to the South Texas Golf Course Superintendents Association, which for several years has successfully overseen the operation of the practice tee by interacting directly with the players and our staff. As far as I am aware of, this endeavor is unprecedented and demonstrates the hospitality that the State of Texas is known for, as well as the comradeship that characterizes this Association.

We are already looking forward to the 2012 event!

— Tom Brown, Competitions Agronomist, PGA Tour

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

continued from page 3

While the Chapter Championship is still on the front burner, our annual Superintendent/Pro or Member/Member tournament is ready to boil . . . it's coming up on July 18 at The Traditions Club at Texas A&M. Entry forms will be made available on our web site ([www.stgcsa.org](http://www.stgcsa.org)). I don't think I'd be going to far to say the tournament is one of our most fun events or that it plays a big role in building the STGCSA network, so I hope you'll find a partner and enter. We'll pair you up with someone if you'd like (you should speak with Marian Takushi (281-494-0094) about that.

— Wade Warm, CGCS

“Don't let the bad shots get to you. Don't let yourself become angry. The true scramblers are thick-skinned. And they always beat the whiners.”

— Paul Runyan

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## Taking up the leadership mantle

They might not be peas in a pod, but they're hardly fire and ice, either. Ben Fultz and Jeff McCrory have worked together, gone to school together, were elected to the South Texas Golf Course Superintendents Association's Board of Directors at the same time, and are working together again . . . or at least they are working for the same company.

And now, a month after McCrory hosted his first STGCSA Monthly Meeting (and the first round of the 2011 STGCSA Chapter Championship), Fultz is doing the same (except that he'll be hosting the second and final round of the Chapter Championship).

It's a good thing they're friends.

Fultz, 35 years old, is a native of Fort Wayne, Ind., but his family relocated to Austin when he was a child and that's where he grew up. He attended Angelo State University but transferred to Texas State Technical College in Waco to finish up his collegiate experience. He graduated with an Associates Degree in Turfgrass Management in 2000. McCrory graduated a year earlier, and that's where the two met.

Fultz and McCrory both worked as interns for fellow STGCSA member Tom Werner at Waco's Ridgewood Country Club during portions of their time in Waco; Fultz worked as

an assistant at League City's Magnolia Creek Golf Links starting in 1999, a job he retained upon graduation and maintained into 2004.

He took a break that summer, working for a refinery creating autocad drawings for a few months, but the golf course maintenance industry was in his blood.

"I love the game of golf and promoting it," he says, "and love seeing how Mother Nature can be manipulated to meet the needs of golfers. Plus, I'm a morning person and I love the outdoors. Those things make the business a good fit for me."

His re-entry into the business came during a short stint in which he worked for Andy Coz at Timber Creek Golf Club, and in 2005, he went to work as an assistant superintendent at Wildcat Golf Club. He was promoted to that facility's golf course superintendent position in 2008.



*Ben Fultz*

continued on page 9

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# Faces in the Crowd . . .

. . . at the STGCSA's May Meeting and the first round of the 2011 STGCSA Chapter Championship




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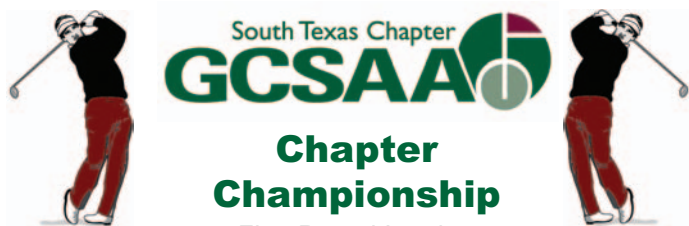


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## Chapter Championship

First Round Leaders  
Quail Valley Golf Club

### Championship Flight Scores

Stan Ludwick	75
Chris Webster	77
Doug Browne	79
Tony Pfaff	79
Harry Yewens	82

### Second Flight Scores

Ed Schultheis	86
Stovy Bowlin	86
Jerry Takushi	88
Steve Vaughn	92
Mark Baughman	93

### First Flight Scores

Pat Johnston	83
Paul Tessman	84
Sean Wilson	88
Dennis Dickson	88
C. Shrock	88

### Third Flight Scores (Net)

Kevin Brown	68.0
Vince Gallegos	71.0
John Dailey	73.6
Doug Shamp	74.0
J. Annison Smith	74.5

## Special Contests

Hole	Contest	Winner
#2	Closest-to-Pin	Dennis Wilagnowski
#3	Long Drive (0-12 hcp.)	Jason Ruple
#3	Long Drive (13+ hcp.)	Doug Shamp
#6	Closest-to-Pin	Pat Johnston
#11	Closest-to-Pin	Jerry Takushi
#14	Closest-to-Pin	Jeff Blume

## Thanks!!!

The STGCSA and its membership wishes to extend its gratitude to the staff at Quail Valley Golf Course, and especially to Jeff McCrory, golf course superintendent, for hosting the Chapter's May Meeting and the first 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.



## BEN FULTZ

continued from page 7

As it happens, Wildcat is operated by ValleyCrest Golf Course Maintenance, which also happens to do the same for Quail Valley Golf Course, where McCrory is the golf course superintendent.

It's probably not much of a coincidence that two men who's careers have been so closely intertwined decided to run for positions on the STGCSA's Board of Directors at the same time. In any case, that's what happened last fall— both were elected are among the Chapter's "young guns" in the realm of the STGCSA's leadership.

"I like being involved and helping the association," Fultz says of his decision to offer his time and effort to the STGCSA. "It takes a lot of work to promote our industry and our profession. It's not self-sufficient— it's something that I believe you have to put effort into, and you get out of it what you put into it."

As a bonus, Fultz says, "I've already gotten to meet many members I didn't know before."

If you've read Wade Warms "President's Message" in this month's issue of *Tee to Green*, you know how important that can be.

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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.*

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## 2011 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### June 6

Wildcat Golf Club  
*Second Round Chapter Championship*  
Host Superintendent: Ben Fultz

### 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 Shulse

### August 8

Sand Hill Farm Golf Club  
Host Superintendent: Brian Johnson

### IMPORTANT! DATE CHANGE!

### 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

*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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