

Tee to Green

November/December
2009

Willy Plowman elected President

Wade Warms and Mark Haven chosen for new roles

Willy Plowman, golf course superintendent at Willow Fork Country Club, was elected President of the South Texas Golf Course Superintendents Association for 2010 during the Chapter's Annual Meeting last month at Willow Fork.

Plowman, a 15-year member of the STGCSA, was first elected to the STGCSA Board of Directors in 2003 and has spent the past two years as the Chapter's Secretary/Treasurer and Vice-President.



Willy Plowman

"We have a great track record of continually improving our organization and I certainly intend to continue that tradition," said Plowman. "We've got some plans for 2010 and beyond that we believe will be beneficial to the association, but it will take the participation of our membership to make them work. We'll be calling on our members to work with the officers and Board members, and I hope they are ready to respond."

"A good example is attendance at our Monthly Meetings," Plowman said. "Only 40 members attended our Annual Meeting, and that number wasn't unusual for 2009. We need to reverse that trend, and we've already taken the step of changing our meeting schedule to try to accommodate more members. Another thing we'll do is seek a wider variety of topics and speakers for our meetings."

"We're trying to create new reasons to be involved and improve the perceived value of our meetings," added the new president. "If those efforts are successful, we'll be better able to achieve our short-term goals as well as prepare us for the longer term needs of our Chapter."

Joining Plowman in a new role is Wade Warms, CGCS, who was elected Vice-President after serving as STGCSA

Secretary/Treasurer in 2009. Warms, the golf course superintendent at the Golf Club at Cinco Ranch, has been a member of the Chapter's Board of Directors for five years.

Mark Haven, Associate Director of Recreational Sports for Texas A&M Golf Course &

Recreational Sports Intramural Fields, was elected to the Secretary/Treasurer position. Haven has been a Board member for four years.

Lee Gravett, president of the STGCSA in 2009, is now the Chapter's Immediate Past President.

In addition to electing new officers, attendees at the Annual Meeting also elected four members to the Board of Directors.

Sean Wilson, CGCS, golf course superintendent at The Club at Falcon Point, and Kevin Borowski, golf course superintendent at Houston Country Club, were elected to their second terms on the Board, and Tom Werner, golf course superintendent for The Houstonian Golf and Country Club and ShadowHawk Golf Club, was elected to the Board for his first term.

Mark Baughman, golf sales manager for AMC Industries/Rainbird, was elected to his second term as an Affiliate Member of the Board of Directors.

While the elections were the primary new business at the Annual Meeting, several other actions were on the agenda. Among those were the announcement of the STGCSA's 2009 Legacy Scholarship recipients and voting on the Chapter's second annual winner of the Sonny DuBose Memorial Superintendent of the Year. The scholarship recipients and the award winner will be



Wade Warms, CGCS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

With the holiday season upon us and the end of the year closing in, I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their support and help during my term as your president. It has been an interesting year for everyone, but I think and hope that the trying times have caused us all to focus on our families and friends and how truly blessed we are to have those people in our lives.



I know your officers and Board of Directors have worked diligently to maintain the forward momentum that has been established over the course of the past decade. We've had a wonderful slate of meetings this year, and both our Scholarship Tournament and our Superintendent/Pro and Member/Member events played their usual roles in helping us continue building our Legacy Scholarship program. This year's scholarship recipients will be announced during our Annual Awards Banquet and Ceremony at Riverbend Country Club. I know you take as much pride as I do in our efforts to help the children of our members.

We'll be announcing our second annual Sonny DuBose Memorial Superintendent of the Year honoree at the December gathering, too, and I think our entire membership will take great pleasure in the selection.

The Awards Banquet and Ceremony, by the way, will feature a "Casino Night" for entertainment, a great dinner, the presentation of prizes to our "Points List" winners for 2009 (See page 7 to find out if you're among them.), and a number of free prizes and raffles to those attending. You should be in that group . . . it's the one time of the year we get together just for fun.

Once again, I want to say thank you to all those who have taken part in our activities this year. The STGCSA is fortunate to have so many members committed to the organization's goals.

I also want to extend special thanks to our vendors for the wonderful support they provide and to Marian Takushi, who keeps everything within the STGCSA running smoothly, and a welcome to our new officers and Board members . . . our future is bright with you in charge!

Have a happy and safe Holiday season . . . I look forward to seeing you at Riverbend on Dec. 11.

— Lee Gravett



President

Lee Gravett

Vice-President

Willy Plowman

Secretary/Treasurer

Wade Warmes, CGCS

Immediate Past President

Roger Goettsch, CGCS

Board of Directors

Russell Birkhimer

Brandon Cole

Mark Baughman

Mark Haven

Kevin Borowski

Blayne Sparks

Steven Chernosky

Sean Wilson, CGCS

Executive Director

Marian Takushi

P.O. Box 571923 • Houston, Texas 77257-1923

Phone: 281-494-0094 • FAX: 281-494-0094

e-mail: stgcsa@windstream.net

Director of Communications

Steve Hunter

Phone: 281-395-4927 • FAX: 281-395-6293

e-mail: srhunter@mindspring.com

Lone Star Representatives

Doug Browne, Steve Chernosky, George Manuel

January Meeting Member/Guest

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Stephen F. Austin Golf Club
1130 Park Rd., San Felipe, TX 77473
Host Superintendent — Doug Browne

Qualified guests may attend the meeting and lunch, and play golf . . . FREE!

Additional details are available within the "Upcoming Events" section of the Chapter web site (www.stgcsa.org). Please call Mark Haven if you have questions about the eligibility of your guest.

Please RSVP by January 22 by calling Marian Takushi at 281-494-0094, by e-mail at stgcsa@windstream.net or through the direct link on the "Upcoming Events" page of www.stgcsa.org.

Registration: 8:30 a.m. **Lunch:** 11:30-12:30

Golf: After Lunch **Cost:** \$55

REMINDER:

You must arrive by 9:45 a.m. to play golf

Directions: Go west from Katy on I-10. Take Exit 723, San Felipe and turn right on FM 1458. Go 2 miles to Park Rd. 38, turn left, go 1 mile, turn right at the club entrance.

Stay in contact

If you are a vendor that services the golf course maintenance industry in southeast Texas, advertising in *Tee to Green* is your best method for insuring your name stays in front of your customers.

We're currently accepting advertising for 2010. As you make your plans, you need to be aware that the publishing schedule has changed.

It will still be published 10 times (annually). However, instead of printing November/December and January/February issues, we will print issues with cover dates of December/January and February/March. Those dates will coincide with the Chapter's new Monthly Meeting schedule; the issue you are holding will be the last of 2009 and you'll receive a December/January issue next month that be the first issue of 2010.

That means your *Tee to Green* advertising for 2010 also begins next month. Advertising rates remain the same as in 2009 and, as always, you may qualify for free or discounted advertising in the 2010 STGCSA Membership Directory by paying for your advertising early and in full (by Feb. 1, 2010).

The deadline for including your advertising in the upcoming December/January issue of *Tee to Green* is Dec. 10, so please act promptly.

If you have any questions, please call Marian Takushi at 281-494-0094.

Membership Moves

The STGCSA's membership roster grew by a half-dozen last month, and here's who you need to greet.

Joining the STGCSA are *Riley Maxey*, assistant superintendent at Miramont Country Club, *Corby White*, Helena Chemical's newest branch manager, and *Glen Barron*, a sales representative for Luber Brothers, Inc.

Those three are joined by *Bob Cook* and *Lee Keim*, golf course superintendent and assistant superintendent, respectively, at Walden on Lake Houston Country Club.



Cody Spivey purchased a teal hunt donated by Bob Ducote of Bayer Chemical and Bart Fox of Syngenta for last spring's STGCSA Scholarship Tournament.

Was it worth it? You be the judge, but it would appear so. Those enjoying the hunt were, from left to right above, Bart Fox, Abbie the Lab, Paul Tessman, Jerret Wilbourn, Cody Spivey and his guest and Bob Ducote.

All the hunters obtained their limits within 20 minutes.

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Galveston area superintendent renews professional certification

Jeffrey M. Smelser, GCSAA certified golf course superintendent at Galveston Country Club, Galveston, Texas, has completed the renewal process for maintaining his status as a Certified Golf Course Superintendent (CGCS) with the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA).

Smelser has been at Galveston Country Club since 2007. A 19-year GCSAA member, he initially achieved his certification in 2004. Approximately 1,800 golf course superintendents worldwide currently hold "CGCS" status.

According to GCSAA CEO, Mark Woodward, CGCS, "Twenty-five percent of GCSAA's Class A members have elected to earn the highest level of recognition through the professional designation "CGCS" by completion of the GCSAA Certification Program. This program requires their demonstration of a higher set of competencies in golf course management through testing and practical application. Employers can feel confident they employ a career professional who will increase their chances of having consistently superior course conditions."

To qualify for GCSAA's new competency-based certification program, a candidate must have at least three years experience as a golf course superintendent, be employed in that capacity and meet post-secondary educational requirements and/or continuing education points. The candidate's knowledge, skills and abilities are validated through the development of a portfolio consisting of their responses to skill statements, case-study scenarios and submission of work samples; an on-site inspection of their golf facility; and a rigorous six-hour examination covering: equipment, irrigation systems, materials and technology; golf course and grounds; human resources, rules of golf, financial and administrative systems, regulatory and programmatic systems, crisis management, project management and ethics and values.

Maintaining certified status requires renewal every five years after the initial date of certification. To fulfill certification renewal requirements, a candidate must participate in 150 hours of continuing education and professional development.



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The STGCSA hosted its annual Past President's Luncheon at Riverbend Country Club on Oct. 21. The gathering gives the Chapter's current leadership the chance to learn from past leaders and to continue to recognize their contributions to the Chapter. The attendees included 12 STGCSA presidents and four current officers and Board members.

Those attending, from left to right above, were: Mark Monroe (1983-84), George Cincotta (2001), Ray McFarland (2005), Johnny Walker (1997), Mark Caldwell (1986-87), current Board member Mark Baughman, Doug Browne (2006), Charles Joachim (1979-80), Lee Gravett (2009), James Holub (1962, 1974), Terry Gill (2003), Tom Leonard (1964), John Biddy (1973), current Board member Sean Wilson, CGCS, Secretary/Treasurer Mark Haven and Vice-President Wade Warms, CGCS.



The Winners

The STGCSA won the 2009 Texas Trophy, held in September at Memorial Park Golf Course. The STGCSA's representatives included, from left to right above: Chris Webster, Adam Hess, Alan Hess, Mark Haven, Sean Wilson, Danny "the Pirate" Atchison, Bret Barclay.

Adam Hess, reports his father, Alan, was one year old when Alan and fellow STGCSA member Harry Yewens helped get the Texas Trophy started in 1985.


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E-mail: lawanpetty@luber.com

Golf Course Superintendent Wanted

La Torretta Del Lago Resort and Spa

Please send resume' to: Nicholus Munoz

E-mail: nmuoz@latorrettagadellago.com

Golf Course Superintendent Needed

Blaketree National Golf Club

Please send resume' to:

Scott Cory, PGA, Director of Golf

Blaketree National Golf Club

4430 S. FM 1486, Montgomery, TX 77316

Telephone: 936-449-4907 • E-mail: coryscott@pga.com

Assistant Superintendent Wanted

Beaumont Country Club

Please send resume' to: Beaumont Country Club

Attn: Shane Hayes Golf Course Superintendent

5355 Pine Street Beaumont, Texas 77703

Telephone: 409-790-6923

E-mail: shanehunterhayes@yahoo.com

Head Mechanic Needed

Beaumont Country Club

Please send resume' to: Beaumont Country Club

Attn: Shane Hayes Golf Course Superintendent

5355 Pine Street Beaumont, Texas 77703

Telephone: 409-790-6923

E-mail: shanehunterhayes@yahoo.com

Golf Course Superintendent Position Open

Frisch Auf Valley Golf Club — La Grange

Please contact: Ken Berg

Telephone: 979-242-4012 • E-mail: kenberg@cvctx.com

For information packet, contact County Auditor at

Winkler County Courthouse - 432-586-3161

Opening for Pro Shop Manager and Superintendent

Winkler County Golf Course — Kermit, Texas

Please send resume' to:

Jon Crain, Nueva Vista Golf Club

6101 W. Wadley, Midland, TX 79707

Assistant Superintendent Wanted

White Bluff Resort — Whitney, Texas

Please send resume' to:

Danny Holt, CGCS, White Bluff Resort

2002 Misty Valley Cr., Whitney, TX 76692.

FAX: 254-694-7127

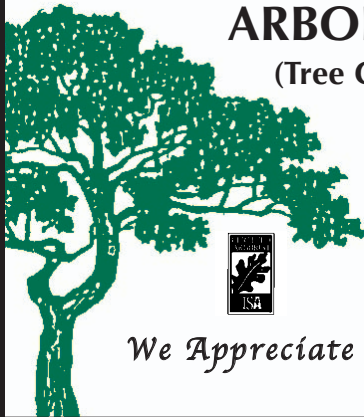
E-mail: golfsuperintendent@whitebluffresort.com

The STGCSA Bulletin Board is available for use by all STGCSA members. Call Steve Hunter (281-395-4927) before the 10th 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).

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November Golf Results

Willow Fork Country Club
Pink Ball Outing

79

Sean Wilson, Brent Ratcliff, Jeff Smith, Jason Harsh

83

Richard Kane, Michael Finke, Robert Fray

90

Mike James, Terry Gill, Lee Keim, Willy Plowman

94

Pat Johnston, John Freeman, Kevin Royse, Cheyenne Herring

98

Stan Ludwick, Lee Gravett, Kevin Brown, Jerry Huntsman

102

Dennis Klene, Mike Nuzzo, Johnny Walker, Russell Yancy

The following teams lost their Pink Ball.

12 holes

Danny Atchison, Mark Baughman, Brandon Cole, David Gray

11 holes

Jeff Jowell, Randy Samoff, Glen Barron, Ray McFarland

8 holes

Mark Haven, Bob Cook, Ed Schutheis, Chris Teaftiller

lost on first hole

Steven Chernosky, Wade Warms, Jack Hargrove, Gary Hargrove

2009 STGCSA Points Lists

(Final Standings)

Superintendents

Danny Atchison	856.00
Sean Wilson	832.00
Jerry Huntsman	816.50
Ray McFarland	816.00
Lee Gravett	814.00
Mark Haven	812.00
Gary Hargrove	812.00
Wade Warms	809.00
Tom Werner	806.00
Willy Plowman	696.00

Affiliates

Brandon Cole	853.00
Ed Schultheis	845.00
Mike James	840.00
Mark Baughman	812.00
Stan Ludwick	736.00
Jeff Smith	723.50
Jeff Jowell	705.00
Jack Hargrove	702.50
Brent Ratcliff	678.50
Phil Taylor	665.00

PLOWMAN

continued from page 1

announced during the 2009 Awards Banquet and Ceremony, Dec. 11 at Riverbend Country Club.

The Chapter also continued its tradition of recognition of years of service by presenting a number of members with "service pins" signifying their years of membership in the STGCSA. The list of recipients will be included in the upcoming December/January issue of *Tee to Green*.

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Annual Awards Banquet and Ceremony

Friday, December 11, 2009

Riverbend Country Club
1214 Dulles Ave., Sugar Land, TX 77478
Host Superintendent — George Cincotta

Cost: \$85 per couple

Casino Night and Prizes!

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Fabulous Dinner!

Please RSVP by December 8 by calling
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on the "Upcoming Events" page of www.stgcsa.org.

Directions:

Take the Southwest Freeway (U.S. 59) south
to the first exit after the Sam Houston Toll Road.
Stay on the W. Airport/ Kirkwood exit feeder through
the first light at Airport and turn left at the second light
at Kirkwood, which turns into Dulles after you cross
the railroad tracks at Hwy. 90. Riverbend is on the right,
exactly 2.3 miles from the freeway.

Pest Management seminar set for January

The Texas Agri-Life Extension Service—Harris County Office
will conduct its 2010 Pest Management for Golf and Sport Turf
Systems seminar on Jan. 14, 2010, at its office in west Houston
(3033 Bear Creek Dr., Houston, TX 77084).

Co-sponsored by the South Texas Golf Course Superintendents
Association, the meeting will begin with registration, coffee and
donuts at 8 a.m. and will run through approximately 3 p.m. Five
different presentations led by industry experts are slated for the
seminar.

The cost of attendance is \$30 for advance registration and \$40
at the door, and includes lunch. Those attending will earn five
TDA CEU (2 IPM, 2 Gen, 1 L&R) as well as SPCS CEUs and
GCSAA credits (to be announced).

Payment for the seminar may be made by credit card by calling
281-494-0094 or by visiting the "Pest Management for Golf and
Sport Turf Systems" link at www.stgcsa.org.

Payment may also be made by check, payable to "STGCSA"
and mailed to P.O. Box 571923, Houston, TX 77257-1923.

For additional information, please contact Dr. Anthony
Camerino (281-855-5600, awcamerino@ag.tamu.edu).

*Watch for the 2010 STGCSA Monthly Meeting
schedule in the next issue of Tee to Green and
on the Upcoming Events page of www.stgcsa.org.*

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