

Tee to Green



October
2009

ELECTION TIME!

The leaves are changing (or at least they're thinking about it), and that means it's Fall. Finally.

For the local golf community that means some of the best golf weather of the year is upon us. For the membership of the South Texas Golf Course Superintendents Association, Fall brings the Chapter's annual election of officers and members of its Board of Directors.

This year's election will take place during the STGCSA Annual Meeting, scheduled for Nov. 9 at Willow Fork Country Club.

With Lee Gravett moving on to the position of Immediate Past President, Willy Plowman is on the ballot as the presidential candidate, while Wade Warms, CGCS, is running for the STGCSA's vice-presidency. Both have long records of service (see page 4 for biographical details about each candidate) to the Chapter and to the profession.

Mark Haven, who has established a solid record of contributions during his four years on the Board of Directors, is running for the office of Secretary/Treasurer.

With Haven vacating his Board slot to run for the position of

Secretary/Treasurer, there are three Board slots open. Sean Wilson, CGCS, first elected to the Board of Directors in 2007, is running for re-election. Kevin Borowski and Tom Werner, CGCS, are the candidates for the other two positions.

Mark Baughman, who was first elected to one of the Affiliate positions on the Board in 2007, is running for re-election to that position.

While the officers elected will, as always, serve one-year terms, those elected to the Board will serve two years (2010, 2011). For those so inclined, the opportunity to vote for write-in candidates will also be available.

As mentioned above, a few biographical details and qualifications for the candidates can be found elsewhere in this issue of *Tee to Green*. Please take a few moments to look them over so you'll be informed and prepared to vote when the time comes. Each of the candidates will provide a brief address to the attendees at the Annual Meeting prior to the election.

Remember . . . voting is a right and a responsibility. Please make sure you attend the Annual Meeting and register your votes.

Help our membership grow

We've changed the format of our October Meeting. It will now be a Member/Guest event, and we're asking you to bring a non-member (superintendent, general manager or Greens Committee chairman guest). Your guest will attend the meeting, have lunch and play in a two-person scramble FREE!

Our goal is to attract new members to the STGCSA, and you can help.

Please call Mark Haven at 979-845-1925.

Additional details about the meeting can be found on page 2.

Our routine is changing

If you have been a member of the South Texas Golf Course Superintendents Association for any time at all, you know how our meeting schedule has been handled . . . monthly meetings from March through December (including the Christmas Party) and no meetings in January or February.

For the past several months, your Board of Directors has been considering a change, and now it has taken action.

In order to shorten the gap between meetings during the winter and to allow for summer vacations (and to avoid a little heat), the 2010 schedule will go something like this . . . there will be a meeting in January (Jan. 26 at Stephen F. Austin Golf Club, to be exact), no meeting in February, monthly meetings from March through June, no meeting in July, and then monthly meetings (plus the Christmas Party) from August through December.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

To say that the past month or so has been very busy (and somewhat stressful) for me would be an understatement of vast proportions. In case you have not heard by now, I am no longer working at Golfcrest Country Club and have my eyes focused firmly on my future.

With that in mind, I'm going to keep this month's President's Message short and hopefully sweet.

You'll find this month's *Tee to Green* chock full of information you need to know. Here are the highlights.

— Our next to last meeting of 2009 is Oct. 13 at Cinco Ranch. We've decided to use it to help recruit new members. Accordingly, it will be a Member/Guest affair, and I hope you and an appropriate guest will take advantage of what we're offering.

— Our meeting schedule is changing for next year, with our first gathering of 2010 scheduled for Jan. 26 at Stephen F. Austin Country Club. You must pay your dues prior to attending that meeting, so please use the Membership Application you'll find enclosed to take care of business.

— We're still looking for volunteers to work the practice facilities during the LGPA Tour Championship. This is another outstanding chance for us to present ourselves to the area's golf community. As a bonus, these efforts are always fun. I hope you'll be a part of this one.

— Mark Haven and Wade Warms will host our 2009 Vendor Summit at Cinco Ranch on Oct. 6. If you are a vendor or are involved in our various sponsorship and advertising activities, I

urge you attend. This will be your chance to let us know how we can best suit your needs through our newsletter, web site and monthly meetings.

— Our Annual Meeting and election are coming up in November. As always, we'll also use the occasion to review our past year's business and preview the upcoming year. I trust you'll be there.

— Some purely fun stuff . . . our Annual Awards Banquet and Ceremony will be held Dec. 11 at Riverbend Country Club. The gathering will be highlighted by the presentation of our 2009 Sonny DuBose Memorial Superintendent of the Year Award and our 2009 Legacy Scholarship recipient. I trust you'll be at that get-together, too.

More information about each of these upcoming plans and events can be found throughout this issue of *Tee to Green* and on our web site.

For now, I want to close with one more thing, and that's a sincere "Thank You" to Jason Harsh and the staff at Memorial Park Golf Course for the great job they did hosting the 2009 Texas Trophy (and our September meeting). Their hospitality was, as always, outstanding.

I'll add in a word of congratulations, too, to those STGCSA members who played on the tournament's winning team, and to the three members who won their flights.

Great job, everyone! See you at Cinco Ranch.

— Lee Gravett



President

Lee Gravett

Vice-President

Willy Plowman

Secretary/Treasurer

Wade Warms, 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

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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

October Meeting

Monday, October 13, 2009

The Golf Club at Cinco Ranch
23030 Cinco Ranch Blvd., Katy, TX 77450-5997
Host Superintendent — Wade Warms, CGCS

Please RSVP by October 10 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.

Speaker: Jim Montgomery, Greensmiths
"Water and Soil Relationships and Dynamics"
Attendance earns 10 CEU credits

Registration: 9 a.m. **Lunch:** 11:30-12:30

Golf: After Lunch

Cost: \$55

REMINDER:

You must arrive by 10:15 to play golf

Directions: From I-10, west of Hwy. 6. Go south on Grand Parkway (HWY 99). Exit Grand Parkway at Cinco Ranch Blvd. and go left at the light. Go one block to the first stop light; the club will be on your left just past the stop light.

Vendor Summit

The STGCSEA's second annual Vendor Summit is scheduled for Oct. 6, beginning at 10 a.m., at the Golf Club at Cinco Ranch.

Mark Haven, chairman of the STGCSEA Tournament Committee, and Wade Warms, CGCS, STGCSEA Secretary/Treasurer will host the gathering, which has as its mission the collection of information from the STGCSEA's vendors their feedback regarding the Chapter's advertising and sponsorship activities for the newsletter, the web site and the meetings.

All Affiliate Members are invited to attend the Summit to provide their ideas as to how the STGCSEA can best serve their needs.

If you have any questions, please contact Mark Haven at 979-845-1925.

Membership Moves

The STGCSEA's newest members include *Patrick O'Neal*, who is the golf course superintendent at Woodforest Golf Club, and four staff members from Whispering Pines Golf Club.

The latter group includes *Michael Dieckhoff*, golf course superintendent, *Clint Evens*, senior assistant, *Cody Fisseler*, second assistant, and *Zach Losado*, assistant in training.

To each and all, we say, "Welcome!"

Don't forget

The STGCSEA will be manning the practice facilities during the upcoming LPGA Tour Championship, Nov. 16-22, at The Houstonian Golf & Country Club.

Please contact Tom Werner (twerner@houstoniangolf.com, 713-628-1096) if you can help.

ROUTINE

continued from page 1

The details of the new schedule will be announced in an upcoming issue of *Tee to Green* and on the STGCSEA web site (www.stgcsa.com), but in the mean time, you need to be aware of another change resulting from the schedule adjustment.

In the past, we've asked that your annual dues be paid by the time we meet in March. We're now asking that you pay your dues . . . now. Or, at least, by the time of our first meeting of 2010.

You'll find a Membership Application enclosed in this issue of the newsletter. It will also be available on our web site. Please keep in mind that your dues must be paid as of the Jan. 19 meeting in order for you to attend that meeting.

One other note about the meetings. As mentioned above, details about the 2010 schedule will be announced soon, but if your facility is available to host a meeting, please contact Willy Plowman (willyplowman@yahoo.com, 281-599-0769).



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2009 South Texas GCSA Candidates for Office

President

Willy Plowman

Golf Course Superintendent, Willow Fork Country Club

"I've been working with the STGCSA's leadership team for the past seven years, and I think I can safely say we've seen improvements every year. With your support, we'll continue that trend into the future, and I pledge to do everything I can to promote our cause as your president."

Association Experience: STGCSA Vice-President, 1 year; STGCSA Secretary/Treasurer, 1 year; STGCSA Membership Committee, 1 year; STGCSA Education Committee, 2 years (chairman, 2 years); STGCSA Information Services Committee, 1 year; Historical Committee, 1 year; STGCSA member, 14 years; GCSAA member, 14 years; Texas Turfgrass Association member, 14 years; South Texas Ultradwarf Management Summit organizer, 5 years; Houston Community College Turfgrass Program Advisory Committee, 6 years; Texas Turfgrass Association Educational Planning for Conferences, 3 years; Texas Turfgrass Association Board of Directors, 2 years; Texas Agrilife Extension Service Harris County Office, 1 year; Agriculture and Natural Resources Program Area Committee.

Vice-President

Wade Warms, CGCS

Golf Course Superintendent, Golf Club at Cinco Ranch

"The STGCSA has become an important part of my professional and personal life during the last 12 years. The relationships and friendships that I have made through this organization have become invaluable to me. I would like to continue to help advance our organization as VicePresident. Please support me as I continue to serve the STGCSA."

Association Experience: Certified Golf Course Superintendent; STGCSA Secretary/Treasurer, 1 year; STGCSA Board of Directors, 5 years; Education/Scholarship Committee; 4 years; Public Relations Committee, 1 year (chairman, 1 year); STGCSA member, 12 years; GCSAA, 14 years; Texas Turfgrass Association, 12 years; Lone Star GCSA, 12 years.

Secretary/Treasurer

Mark Haven

Associate Director of Recreational Sports,
Texas A&M Golf Course &
Recreational Sports Intramural Fields

"I firmly believe that we have one of the strongest chapters in the nation. I am proud to be part of it and thankful that I have been given the opportunity to serve."

Association Experience: STGCSA Board of Directors, 4 years; Tournament Committee, 4 years (3 years as chairman); STGCSA Member, 16 years; GCSAA member, 11 years; Texas Turfgrass Association member, 16 years.

CANDIDATES FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kevin Borowski

Golf Course Superintendent, Houston Country Club

"I think it takes involvement to help promote and grow our

organization. I just want to be more involved with the Chapter's operations as it moves toward a very bright future. I'd be excited to be able to contribute to that future."

Association Experience: STGCSA Board of Directors, 1 years; STGCSA member, 9 years; North Texas GCSA, 7 years; Central Texas GCSA member, 2 years; Central Ohio GCSA, 2 years; GCSAA member, 18 years; Texas Turfgrass Association, 18 years; Little League baseball coach, 4 years.

Sean Wilson, CGCS

Golf Course Superintendent, The Club at Falcon Point

"After being in three of the GCSAA chapters in Texas (North, Central and South) I can honestly say that the South Texas GCSA is by far the best. We have better participation and events that are managed much better. I would just like to do my part and help the association continue to grow."

Association Experience: Certified Golf Course Superintendent; STGCSA Board of Directors, 2 years; STGCSA member, 4 years; Central Texas GCSA, 8 years; CTGCSA vice-president, 1 year; CTGCSA Board of Directors, 2 years; Lone Star GCSA, 13 years; Texas Turfgrass Association, 13 years; GCSAA, 13 years.

Tom Werner, CGCS

Golf Course Superintendent,
Shadow Hawk Golf Club

The Houstonian Golf & Country Club

"The South Texas GCSA was the first (and hopefully last) chapter that I have been a member of. Our association is about the people that make up its membership. It is a privilege to be a member of the South Texas Chapter and it would be a greater privilege to be elected as a leader. If given the opportunity, the job is made easier knowing that it is the members that make the South Texas chapter what it is today."

Association Service: STGCSA Board of Directors, 1 year; North Texas GCSA President, 1 year; NTGCSA Board of Directors, 5 years; Lone Star GCSA President, 1 year; LSGCSA Board of Directors, 9 years; Texas Turfgrass Association President, 1 year, Texas Turfgrass Association Board of Directors, 9 years; STGCSA member, 10 years, GCSAA member, 20 years; served on numerous GCSAA committees; past member of Florida GCSA.

**AFFILIATE
CANDIDATE**

Mark Baughman

Golf Sales Manager
AMC Industries/Rainbird

"I've made it my goal to attend as many STGCSA monthly meetings as possible, and I've made it to all but a couple in the past three years or so. I think it's important to be a part of the Chapter's operations because the superintendent/vendor relationship is so critical to our collective success. I think I've learned enough during my 17 years of membership to be able to offer more to the Chapter, and that's why I'm running for the Board of Directors again."

Association Experience: STGCSA Board of Directors, 2 years; STGCSA Superintendent of the Year Committee, 2 years; TECQ Texas licensed irrigator, 24 years; Shell Houston Open volunteer, 8 years; PGA Tour Championship volunteer, 3 years; STGCSA Tournament Committee, 6 years; STGCSA member, 17 years; Lone Star GCSA, 3 years; Texas Turfgrass Association, 8 years.

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White Bluff Resort — Whitney, Texas

Please send resume to:

Danny Holt, CGCS, White Bluff Resort
20022 Misty Valley Cr., Whitney, TX 76692.

FAX: 254-694-7127

E-mail: golfsuperintendent@whitebluffresort.com

Golf Course Superintendent Needed

Tomball Country Club

Please send resume to:

Mike Porter, President, Tomball Country Club
22303 Walden Way, Tomball, TX. 77375

E-mail: accepted-Blairkline@juno.com

Grounds Superintendent Needed

Hobbs Country Club — Hobbs, New Mexico

Please send resume to:

Dave Rennhack, Director of Golf, Hobbs Country Club
FAX: 575-393-5169 • E-mail: dave@hobbscountryclub.com

Assistant Mechanic Wanted

Whispering Pines Golf Club

Please contact: Michael Dieckhoff, Golf Course Superintendent

1532 Whispering Pines Drive, Trinity, TX 75862

Phone: 936-594-4690 • Fax: 936-594-4685

E-mail: mdieckhoff@whisperingpinesgolfclub.com

Golf Course Superintendent Position Available

Pheasant Trails Golf Course — Dumas, Texas

An application may be obtained by

contacting Brenda Koehn, City of Dumas HR Director

Phone: 806-935-4101, ext. 106 • E-mail: bkoehn@ci.dumas.tx.u

Golf Course Superintendent Wanted

Nueva Vista Golf Club — Midland, Texas

Please send resume to:

Jon Crain, Nueva Vista Golf Club

6101 W. Wadley, Midland, TX 79707

Horticulture/Resort Landscape Superintendent Needed

La Torretta Del Lago Resort & Spa — Montgomery, Texas

Please contact: Nicholus Muñoz, HR-Recruiting Manager

600 La Torretta Blvd., Montgomery, TX 77356

Direct: 936-448-3037

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).

“Does the average player really know what he likes himself? When he plays it successfully, it is everything that is good, and when he is unsuccessful it is everything that is bad.”

— Alister Mackenzie

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Memorial Park Golf Course

CHAPTER WINNERS

South Texas – 461/909

*Joe Anderson, Mark Haven, Bret Barclay,
Chris Webster, Danny Atchinson, Adam Hess*

Central Texas – 463/927

*Scotty Brown, Jason Kelley, Ed Martinez,
Wayne Slaton, Brad Fryrear, Jim Papa*

North Texas – 525/1059

*Hans Haas, Polo Hernandez, Jay Stine,
Lewis Fry, Andrew Jones, Fred Larned*

INDIVIDUAL WINNERS

Championship Flight

Gross		Net	
Chris Webster	145	Joe Anderson	145
Wayne Slaton	148	Adam Hess	146
Hans Haas	150	Scotty Brown	146
Mark Haven	152	Ed Martinez	147

First Flight

Gross		Net	
Brad Fryrear	155	Cody Marchand	140
Bret Barclay	156	Danny Atchinson	143
Polo Hernandez	160	Jerry Takushi	144
Tem Miller	163	Jim Papa	146

Second Flight

Gross		Net	
Jason Harsh	173	John Walker	144
Russell Birkheimer	178	Brandon Crumpler	147
Tom Werner	186	Fred Larned	156
Gary Rodgers	192	Jerry Huntsman	156

Affiliate Flight

Gross		Net	
Jeffrey Jowell	148	Robbie Humphrey	138
Stan Ludwick	150	Mark Baughman	142
Mike Mathis	155	Trevor Ogden	142
Laremy Kamas	161	Baxter Spann	148

2009 STGCSEA Points Lists

(Top 10s through July)

Superintendents		Affiliates	
Danny Atchison	592.00	Stan Ludwick	595.00
Mike Rhoden	571.50	Brandon Cole	589.00
Justin Lonon	569.50	Ed Schultheis	583.00
Jared Bonar	564.00	Pat Neuendorff	583.00
Sean Wilson	562.00	Jeff Smith	578.50
Steven Chernosky	559.00	Mike James	572.00
Tom Werner	556.00	Jack Hargrove	566.50
Ray McFarland	553.00	Mark Baughman	548.00
Gary Hargrove	551.00	Phil Taylor	540.00
Jerry Huntsman	550.50	Eric Glover	535.50

Weston Lakes to host T.A.N.N.S.

(This Ain't No Stinkin' Scramble)

Long time STGCSEA member Harry Yewens is hosting a tournament benefiting the MD Anderson Cancer Center, the Fort Bend County Deputy Sheriff's Association and Lion's Club Charities at Weston Lakes Country Club on October 22.

The two-man tournament will feature nine holes of best ball play and nine holes of alternate shot competition. The entry fee is \$250 and there are several sponsorship opportunities available.

The entry deadline is Oct. 16, 2009. Details can be found at www.FulshearSimontonLionsClub.org. You can reach Harry Yewens at 832-541-7340 or harrywl@netzero.net to sign up.

Bayer Grant Program

Bayer Environmental Science has teamed up with The Environmental Institute for Golf to send five golf course superintendents to the GCSAA Education Conference and Golf Industry Show. The purpose of this grant is to assist golf course superintendents with their professional development through participation in the annual event that features the most comprehensive education program available in the industry.

The deadline for entry is Oct. 19, 2009. Winners will be notified by Oct. 26, 2009.

Additional information and applications can be found at <http://www.gcsaa.org/Conference/education/GrantApplication.aspx>.

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2009
STGCSA SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

October 13
The Golf Club
at Cinco Ranch
Host Superintendent:
Wade Warms, CGCS

November 9
Willow Fork CC
Host Superintendent:
Willy Plowman
Gross/Net Skins

December 11
Annual Awards Banquet
and Ceremony
Riverbend CC
Host Superintendent:
George Cincotta

December 14-16
Texas Turfgrass Association
Conference
Austin Convention Center



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