



**Congratulations to
 Brian Buckner CGCS
 and his terrific staff
 at The Golf Club of
 Houston for an
 outstanding
 Houston Open!**



More photos on page 13



<p>April 17, 2018 Annual Scholarship Tournament and Live Auction High Meadow Ranch GC</p>
<p>May 14, 2018 Sand Hill Farms Golf, Shooting, Education</p>
<p>May 22, 2018 Lone Star GCSA Texas Cup Cottonwood Creek GC, Waco</p>
<p>June 18, 2018 Braeburn Country Club Chapter Championship</p>
<p>July 23, 2018 Deerwood Country Club Member/Guest/Guest/Guest</p>
<p>August Scholarship Banquet Site and Date To Be Determined</p>
<p>September 11 Superintendent / Pro Shadowhawk Golf Club</p>
<p>October 8 Education Meeting Northgate</p>
<p>November 6 Annual Meeting and Past Presidents Meeting Kingwood Country Club</p>

Presidents Message - Kyle Brown



Welcome Spring and the sun. Through January and February the sun was in short supply so I know we are all ready for grass growing weather. Twice over the past month I have been fortunate to witness the power of our association and the tightness that we have as both a golf course management community and as the South Texas Golf Course Superintendents Association. In early March I attended the GCSAA Chapter Leadership Symposium in Lawrence, KS at GCSAA headquarters. All the Superintendents and Association Executives I met there were all extremely friendly and willing to share information for the betterment of our profession and fellow associations. It was interesting hearing how other associations do things and to get ideas on how we can do things better. One takeaway I got was that our association, as you all know, is a great local chapter which says a lot about all those who have been involved throughout the years. Outside the front door of headquarters, next to the Old Tom Morris statue is a deck of bricks with the names of the GCSAA Presidents and Chapter Presidents. STGCSA has individual bricks with each Chapter Presidents name and year served going back at least 50 years. What a neat thing that our chapter has up-kept and a sign of our invested involvement in this great profession for over half a decade. If you do get to GCSAA headquarters, after taking in the bricks, look through the basement of headquarters where there is a mini-museum with antique golf course maintenance equipment. As you can imagine, our equipment has progressed a lot throughout the years but the interesting thing was seeing what has not changed; turf pluggers and hand aerifiers that we use today look basically the same as the ones used decades ago. Why change what works well?

The second powerful moment of March was the Marian Takushi Memorial Medical Fund Golf Tournament at Timber Creek on March 19. Thank you Brent Ratcliff, Andy Coz and Terry Gill for organizing the tournament and to all those who helped at registration. Also, thanks to Bob Meyer for supplying the awesome BBQ. There was over 100 people who came out to support Jerry and Blake Takushi and raise money to help Jerry with all the medical expenses he is overcoming. We had folks from all over the state attending and it was great to be a part of such a supportive association with such a big heart. The total donation amount is over \$15,000. Thank you to all who participated. The morning of the tournament started off a bit cloudy and even had some light rain in areas but by the time registration started, the sun was shining and the weather could not have been better. Great day!

Looking forward, our next event is the Annual Scholarship Tournament on April 17th, hosted by Cody Spivey at High Meadow Ranch. Sign-ups are active on the website and if you have something you want to donate for the auction please e-mail any board member or Carol Cloud at stgcsa@stgcsa.org. Donations can be anything from chemicals and fertilizers to sports tickets and hunting/fishing trips. You donate it, we will auction it off. Once again Bill Freeman is our auctioneer and he always does a great job. Thank you for your support of this tournament and our youth.

Kyle Brown

STGCSA President

ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP TOURNAMENT AND LIVE AUCTION

April 17, 2018

Host: Cody Spivey

9:30—10:00 Registration
 10:00—12:00 Live Auction/Meeting
 11:30- 12:30 Lunch/Range is Open
 12:30 pm Shotgun Start
 (2 drinks pp courtesy of SiteOne)
 5:00 Scoring Awards
 Hors d'oeuvres

Format: Pick your partner
 4 man scramble
 Gross and Net

\$440 per 4-man team
 \$110 single player
 (we will find a team for you!)

Tiger Drive will be available for \$20 per team

Team must be comprised of one of the following

- Must include at least one STGCSA member.
- All team members shall be from the same club or members of STGCSA.
- The team may not include more than one PGA Professional.
- PGA Professional must be from the STGCSA member's course.



Auction Donations

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The certificates are golf-centric, available to GCSAA members and non-members, and can be completed in any order. It is strongly recommended that an assistant superintendent has at least two years of work experience before beginning any of the ASCS certificates. However, the certificates are available to all and not limited to assistants.

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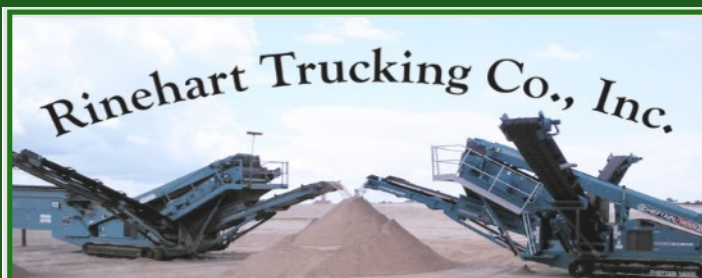
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Annual Conference & Trade Show

December 11-13, 2018

San Antonio Convention
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Texas Turfgrass Association News



Congratulations and
Good Luck to the
new TTA
Executive
Dir. Katie Flowers
(left). She follows
TTA Legend Mrs.
Shirley Duble who
retired in December.

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[Click Here for GCSAA Job Postings](#)

(Superintendent Positions, Asst. Positions, Technician Positions, Affiliate/Sales Positions, Special Supt Positions, like ranches and sports fields are also listed on the website!)




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The South Texas GCSA is proud to announce the: 2018 STGCSA Marian Takushi Memorial GIS Scholarship

The STGCSA is sending two deserving Superintendent Members to the February 2019 Golf Industry Show in San Diego, California.



golf industry show

The scholarship will cover the cost of registration, round trip airfare between Houston and San Diego, 4 nights hotel stay, a \$50/day stipend and registration for one ½-day seminar.

The scholarship is intended to assist STGCSA Superintendent Members whose club does not normally pay for them to attend the conference, though all are welcome to apply.

The applicants selected will be asked to write a short article for the March 2019 Tee to Green issue recapping your experience and how you benefitted from attending the conference. If you are interested in applying please fill out the application and return to stgcsa@stgcsa.org by October 1, 2018.



[CLICK HERE TO APPLY FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP](#)

Scholarship Application New Procedures!

You can start filling out the new 2018 application now.

It is due May 1st for 2018. Go to the website and save the file. Fill it out and submit. Your transcripts must be in by July 1st, so order them soon!!

Congratulations to the 2017 Scholarship Recipients!



Keep in touch
with our
GCSAA Field
Staff
Representative

JOHN WALKER

South Central regional representative

Before joining the GCSAA staff, John Walker was a superintendent, 30-year GCSAA member and past GCSAA board director.

JWalker@gcsaa.org Tel. 713-557-0279

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National Golf Day 2018 Set for April 25 in Washington, D.C.

Industry Leaders to Give Back Through National Mall Service Project



Steve Mona
CEO of World Golf Foundation

WE ARE GOLF – a coalition of the game’s leading associations and industry partners – today announces the 11th annual National Golf Day will be held Wednesday, April 25 on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C.



National Golf Day celebrates the game’s nearly \$70 billion economy (updated data available in April 2018), nearly \$4 billion annual charitable impact and many environmental and fitness benefits. Industry leaders will meet with Members of Congress, the Executive Branch and federal agencies to discuss golf’s 15,000-plus diverse businesses,

two million jobs impacted, tax revenue creation and tourism value.

Returning for 2018, golf industry leaders will arrive Monday, April 23 to participate in a community service initiative on the National Mall the morning of Tuesday, April 24. The project will focus on beautification, preservation and helping the National Park Service with turf deferred maintenance. More details will be available soon.

“With one in 75 U.S. jobs impacted by golf, the industry plays a significant role in stimulating our economy nationwide,” says Steve Mona, CEO of World Golf Foundation, administrator of WE ARE GOLF. “Last year, a record 2.5 million people tried golf for the first time, further cementing why it is vital to share golf’s interests with our country’s lawmakers, showcasing the game’s many economic, charitable and fitness benefits.”

In April 2017, National Golf Day was the most successful to date with a record 175 Congressional meetings scheduled in one day. Globally, the #NGD17 Twitter campaign eclipsed 72 million impressions and reached 24.3 million accounts, exceeding 12

million users in a one-hour span. More than 60 organizations from within the golf industry participated in the week’s activities.

To join the conversation, visit the WE ARE GOLF social media hub. Use #NGD18 and @wearegolf on Twitter and Instagram to show your support for the golf industry.

About WE ARE GOLF

WE ARE GOLF, created in 2010, is an industry coalition that communicates the economic, charitable and environmental impact of golf, as well the health and wellness benefits of the game and the affordability and accessibility of golf, to Members of Congress, the Executive Branch and regulatory agencies. The goal of WE ARE GOLF is to ensure that laws and regulations that impact the golf industry are fair and appropriate to an industry that generates nearly \$70 billion in economic impact annually, impacts close to two million American jobs and generates nearly \$4 billion in charitable giving each year.

For more information, please visit www.wearegolf.org

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Marian Takushi

TIMBER CREEK
Golf Club

Memorial Medical Fund Golf Tournament

More than 100 South Texas GCSA members and friends of the association gathered in March to remember and honor our longtime Chapter Executive, Marian Takushi who passed away early in 2018. Our host was Timber Creek Golf Club and through their generosity and a great turnout, a significant donation was made to the Takushi family to deal with the serious medical expenses associated with Marian's illness.

Marian's husband Jerry Takushi, son Blake and several other family members were in attendance and expressed their appreciation and gratitude for the generosity of all who participated. The day was a great success thanks to the hard work of STGCSA member Brent Ratcliff among many others who selflessly pitched in to help.

South Texas GCSA President Kyle Brown and Terry Gill were instrumental in planning and promoting the event. Bob Meyer of Precise Control was our chef for the day and provided great BBQ. And our host, Andy Coz and all of the staff at Timber Creek rolled out the red carpet for our special day.

Marian's legacy will live on for many years with the South Texas GCSA and with all of the members she served. We all join together to celebrate her life with her family.



San Antonio 2018



2018 Golf Industry Show and Education Conference a Great Success!

In February, San Antonio extended a Texas sized welcome to more than 11,700 attendees from all over the globe. The two-day trade show included 531 exhibitors covering 184,400 square feet of exhibit space at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center

The GCSAA Education Conference, held in conjunction with the Golf Industry Show, is the largest educational conference in the turfgrass management industry. A total of 5,600 seminar seats were filled. In addition, thousands attended complimentary forums, sessions and panel discussions throughout the week. Subject matter included agronomics, business, environmental management, communications, leadership, technology, and personnel management.

The 2019 Golf Industry Show will head to San Diego, Calif., Feb. 2-7.



Matt Cowan claims second GCSAA National Championship

Superintendent at the Hills Course at The Hills at Lakeway in Austin, Texas, finishes with a two-day total of 2-over-par to hold off a pair of other past champions.

On a layout he used to tend to as an assistant superintendent, Matt Cowan reaffirmed his status as the true king of Texas, at least when it comes to the GCSAA National Championship.

Cowan carded a two-day total of 2-over-par 146 to outduel two other past champions to earn the 2018 crown. Defending champion Michael Stieler, CGCS, from Spring Creek Golf and Country Club in Ripon, Calif. — also a two-time winner of the event — and three-time champion Seth Strickland from Miami (Fla.) Shores Country Club both finished at 3-over-par 147.



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2018 Annual Meeting Review

**DARREN DAVIS ELECTED 2018 PRESIDENT
GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICA**



Darren J. Davis, the golf course superintendent at Olde Florida Golf Club in Naples, Fla., has been elected to a one-year term as president of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) at the association's annual meeting Feb. 8, held in conjunction with the Golf Industry Show in San Antonio.

Davis, a certified golf course superintendent (CGCS), served as vice president of the association in 2017 and has been a member of the association's board of directors since 2012. A 28-year member of GCSAA, Davis is a past president of the Everglades GCSA and a past president of the Florida GCSA and Florida Turfgrass Association. He is currently a director with the Musser International Turfgrass Foundation. In 2004, the FGCSA honored him with its Distinguished Service Award, and in 2011 the FTGA presented Davis with the Wreath of Grass - the association's highest award.

A native of Tallahassee, Fla., he earned a turfgrass management certificate from Penn State University in 1991. He also obtained an associate in arts degree from Tallahassee Community College in 1987 and a bachelor of arts degree in communications from Florida Gulf Coast University in 2007.

"Becoming president is a privilege that I don't take lightly," said Davis. "I hope I am able to give the association back even a fraction of what it's given to me."

Other elected officers were Rafael Barajas, CGCS and director of golf course operations at Boca Grove Plantation in Boca Raton, Fla., as vice president, and John R. Fulling Jr., CGCS and grounds and facilities manager at Kalamazoo (Mich.) Country Club, as secretary/treasurer.

Board members Kevin P. Breen, CGCS and golf course superintendent at La Rinconada Country Club in Los Gatos, Calif., and Kevin P. Sunderman, director of grounds at Isla Del Sol Yacht and Country Club in St. Petersburg, Fla., were elected to serve again. While T.A. Barker, CGCS and superintendent at Fore Lakes Golf Course in Taylorsville, Utah; and Jeff L. White, CGCS and superintendent at Indian Hills Country Club in Prairie Village, Kan., were newly elected to the board.

Mark F. Jordan, CGCS and natural resource leader at Westfield Group Country Club in Westfield Center, Ohio; continues his service to the board with one year remaining on his two-year term; while past president Peter J. Grass, CGCS and golf course superintendent at Hilands Golf Club in Billings, Mont., retires from board service.

In addition, delegates voted to approve 11 changes to the association's bylaws.



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The Rounds 4 Research program was designed to address a critical shortage in turfgrass research funding by auctioning donated rounds of golf online.

The program is administered by the Environmental Institute for Golf, the philanthropic organization of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America.

Rounds 4 Research allows GCSAA chapters and turfgrass foundations to participate as fundraising partners with the vast majority of proceeds going back to those organizations. In this way, these organizations can direct the proceeds to specific projects that will have the most significant impact in their local areas.

The EIFG's Rounds 4 Research is an expansion of the innovative program that was introduced by the Carolinas Golf Course Superintendents Association. After the Carolinas GCSA realized the program's scope had grown beyond what it could administer, it offered the program to GCSAA. As GCSAA's philanthropic organization, the EIFG was the natural choice to oversee this exciting fundraising effort.

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