

TEE TO GREEN



The Official Publication of the South Texas Golf Course Superintendents Association



Pecan Grove Plantation Country Club—Host Daniel Wentz



Meeting Schedule
TDA Pesticide License CEU Class February 21, 2018 Sharpstown Park Community Center

March 5, 2018 Pecan Grove Plantation Country Club
--

April 17, 2018 Annual Scholarship Tournament and Live Auction High Meadow Ranch GC
--

May 14, 2018 Sand Hill Farms Golf, Shooting, Education
--

June 18, 2018 Braeburn Country Club Chapter Championship
--

July 23, 2018 Deerwood Country Club Member/Guest/Guest/Guest
--

[Register Now for Any Meeting!](#)



Marian Fluhr Takushi

June 1, 1963 - Feb. 9, 2018

Presidents Message - Kyle Brown

First of all, I am humbled and happy to serve as your 2018 STGCSA President. For my first Presidents Message of the year, I had planned on recapping 2017 then giving a preview of 2018. But that just did not feel right after the passing of our dear friend and long time Executive Director, Marian. Within the newsletter you will find information about upcoming events and a couple other things we are doing but I am going to use the rest of this space to honor Marian.



Marian began her career with STGCSA about 15 years ago. Married to Jerry Takushi, a Superintendent, she had a good understanding of the needs of our association and the “Mothering” it sometimes takes to keep us going in the right direction. Under Marian’s direction several new advertising programs were put into place allowing vendors and affiliates to have a bigger part in the association while putting STGCSA in a healthy place financially. She was great at coordinating events and was usually the first smiling face at the registration table and truly was the heartbeat who kept our events and association running smoothly. After taking over the Executive Director position for Lone Star GCSA, similar results were obtained. These positive financial results allowed STGCSA and LSGCSA to donate more money to research at major Texas universities that ultimately will benefit our profession. Let’s not forget the famous Lone Star Reception at GIS that she organized each year. What a party that always was, with the biggest and best happening a few weeks ago in San Antonio.

Above and beyond STGCSA, Marian’s true passion was her and Jerry’s son Blake who is now attending her alma matter, The University of Texas. Blake grew up in front of many members eyes through the pictures Marian loved showing off and the many stories of his baseball exploits. Being the good Aggie that I am I remember throwing a ut barb out to Blake at the scholarship banquet last year and quickly getting chided by her. She was not taking any of that nonsense, especially when it came to her son. She had the uncanny ability to be loving and tell it like it is all at the same time. Marian was a pleasure to know and work with and as Blake said, we may be able to fill the Executive Director position, but we will never be able to replace Marian. From all of us who had the joy of knowing you, Good-bye Marian and may your soul rest in peace.

Kyle Brown

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!

New Superintendent Scholarship to 2019 GIS in San Diego

STGCSA will grant scholarships for 2 deserving Superintendent Members to attend the 2019 Golf Industry Show in San Diego. The applicants will be selected based on attendance at STGCSA meetings and need. Application coming soon.



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South Texas' Generous Members

South Texas has such generous members, that this year we were able to donate to two great organizations. 2018 STGCSA President, Kyle Brown and 2018 Elected Director Richard Alcaraz bring all the toy donations to Bay Area Turning Point which provides recovery services for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault and facilitates violence prevention strategies for societal change in our community. Chris Lineberger donated a pile of the toys to a Harvey Relief Donation Site in Sugar Land!



STGCSA New Board Member, Richard Alcaraz with 2018 President, Kyle Brown and an organizer at Bay Area Turning Point.

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Helping the Heart of America GCSA is as simple as donating a round of golf for the Rounds 4 Research auction.

Visit Rounds4Research.com to donate today.



New Rounds 4 Research Auction Dates!

We are excited to share that GCSAA will be partnering with The Golf Channel to promote Rounds 4 Research through their new week-long program – “Golf in America.” This is during the first week of May; therefore, we are moving the auction dates to May 1-7 to align with their programming. This will help us reach the avid golfers and introduce them to R4R. They truly believe in what we are doing for research nationwide.

Congratulations Sean Wilson, CGCS
2017 Sonny DuBose Memorial
Distinguished Service Award



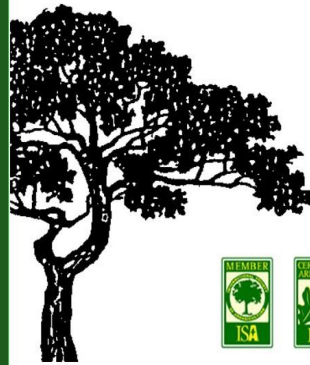
Sean has supported the superintendents profession at the local, state and national levels. On the local level Sean has been the superintendent at Falcon Point for 14 years and through many renovation projects has made Falcon Point one of Houston's best courses. He has always generously hosted STGCSA meetings any time he has been asked. From 2006—2014, Sean served on the STGCSA Board of Directors serving as our 2013 President. At the State level Sean has always supported and helped with the Texas Cup and Texas Trophy. At the National level Sean has served 8 years as the STGCSA voting delegate and has served on several national GCSAA committees. He was also instrumental in Johnny Walker's election to the GCSAA Board of Directors, serving as his campaign chairman. Thank you Sean for your years of dedication and support to our profession. Well deserved.

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Feb. 20

Weed Control for Low-Maintenance Roughs and Natural Areas presented by *PBI Gordon*
Jay McCurdy, Ph.D.

Feb. 21

Creating Habitats for Monarch Butterflies and Pollinators on Golf Courses
Chip Taylor, Ph.D.

Congratulations to our 2017 Top Ten Winners!



Jack Hargrove

Kevin White

Lee Gravett

Cody Spivey

Doug Browne

Kyle Brown

Wade Warms

Johnny Walker

Scott Dotson

Jerry Huntsman

The STGCSA Board of Directors believes that the foundation of our organization is the members who actively participate in STGCSA events. We would like to reward all of those who regularly attend and offer incentive for all of our members to take the next step up in participation. The following program offers rewards based on how much a member participates without putting undue emphasis on golf skill or luck.

*11- points for attending the meeting (you must arrive on time and be in the meeting) as well as participation in the Scholarship and super/pro tournament.

*3- bonus points for participation in the golf event at the monthly meeting.

*5- bonus points for a double shift worked at either the Shell Houston open or Administaff classic, Or JR qualifier at Carlton woods, or any tournament set-up that you assist the hosting Superintendent, or host a STGCSA meeting (maximum of 5 points per event)

*3- additional points for service to the organization such as committee service, representation to the Lone Star, GCSAA.. You will receive 3 points for each day or shift a member serves as an official representative.

*3- additional points for any community service that is performed. This must be submitted to the board in writing and proof of participation, and board will respond in 2 weeks.

You must present all additional points earned to the office by November 1st of that year.

Points will start accumulating at the January meeting

As in the past, the people having the most points at the end of the year (The Top Ten) will earn the right to choose a gift. There are several ways to earn points, including volunteering for a committee. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact any board member. We have several new tasks for 2018 that will require more than just the board members to accomplish.

Get Involved! We need your help



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Cypress Lakes Golf Club— January 30, 2018



The 2nd Annual Chili Cook-Off was held at Cypress Lakes this year, hosted by Wade Warms, CGCS. Everyone received good information from our GCSAA Field Staff, Johnny Walker, and enjoyed the 8 chili entries. The winners of the Chili Cook-Off are:

Champion: Chris Mrosko

2nd: Chris Webster

3rd: Mark Haven

4th: Scott Sipes

Congratulation to STGCSA for winning the 2018 GCI Super Social Media Award for Outstanding Disaster Response. The award was presented in the Aquatrols booth on the trade show floor at GIS. Blayne Sparks, Past-President and Superintendent at The Wilderness accepted on behalf of STGCSA.



Field Notes
December 2017
Hard Winter Precautions

I hope everyone had a great Christmas and a wonderful time with your families.

Since we are already experiencing significant cold temperatures, and it's only December, I wanted to send a reminder to you regarding bermudagrass green care for the hard freeze about to hit as well as potential dangers in January and February. When significant cold is experienced in early winter or in late winter, the tendency for winter kill goes up. Early winter freezes are a problem because the mounds and LDS areas tend to be less hydrated and thus much more susceptible to winter damage. Late hard freezes frequently happen when bermudagrass root and rhizome health is at its worst and thus real damage occurs, again magnified by the lack of hydration.

Therefore, with such early hard freezes occurring, everyone should err on the side of caution when making the decision to cover greens. Moreover, you must make sure the plant and soil are hydrated; a wetting agent is helpful. Moisture contents must be high on the meter readings - remember adequate moisture in the soil buffers temperature fluctuations and reduces the tendency for temperatures to drop as quickly in the profile.

With all this said, I recommend double checking moisture levels now prior to a potential New Year's freeze. Dormant feeding is a great approach as well, for both bentgrass and bermudagrass, and now until January 10-12 is ideal timing. Bermudagrass greens are best fed with a balanced material such as a 13-2-13, 50-70% slow release at about .75 lbs N/1000 sq ft. Continuing with Fe, and other micros as a spray is great, but this dormant feed needs to be granular. Dormant feeding is more productive than late winter feeding because the nutrients can get into the soil solution and be available to the plant as soon as soil temperatures allow uptake.

The same is true with bentgrass greens, but I suggest an analysis such as a 3-1-2 ratio, about 70-80% slow release at .75 lbs N/1000 sq ft. Again, Fe and other micros are productive in the winter to some degree.

Dormant feeding is efficient and productive in a mild winter but especially helpful after a hard winter because it maximizes growth in early spring in a positive way, not a force feed.

Be on your guard this winter. It is one that can sneak up on you before you know it! Ultradwarf recovery in the spring after winter damage is very slow at the worst time of the year for golfer tolerance.

Happy New Year to everyone, and please feel free to call me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

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AUCTION



The Scholarship Tournament is coming up quickly!

Please email stgcsa@stgcsa.org with your generous donations for the live Auction. Bill Freeman will again be our auctioneer at High Meadow Ranch on April 17th!



"Who's Who"

Welcome to our new and returning members!

Brandon Johnson
Supt: Beaumont CC



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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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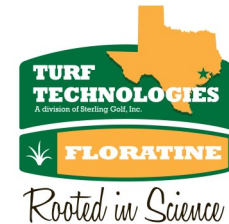


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