#### January/February 2014

#### Tee To Green

# TEE TO GREEN



The Official Publication of the South Texas Golf Course Superintendents Association

#### **Stephen F Austin Golf Club**



#### ~ I sincerely hope everyone had a wonderful holiday! ~

As you know, with every new year, South Texas starts out busy! Of course, your dues for 2014 need to be in by March 1st in order to be listed in the directory and give Marian enough time to get it to the publisher, and mailed so that it arrives in your mailboxes by about April 15th (yes, Tax Day!).

So please get those dues in by credit card or check. If you need an invoice just email the office (<u>stgcsa@stgcsa.org</u>). As long as you don't have any information that has changed, don't worry about the member renewal form. Since the directories are mailed, make sure your mailing address has not changed since last year.

The start of the new year also begins our drive for donations for the annual scholarship tournament and live auction fundraiser. If you plan to donate the same items as last year, just email the office and the email will suffice as your contract. It is my hopes that the easier I make it for you, the quicker you can get these donations in!! I appreciate the "early birds" because it allows me to get some of the details done in advance and not have to rush the week before the tournament. We will again be asking for Superintendent "rounds" donations in June for the July Member/Guest Tournament, but Clubs are welcome to donate items from the golf shop, restaurants, tennis shop etc. Any item is a good item!!

We would also like to be one of the leading chapters in rounds of golf donated to the Rounds 4 Research program. Please get those in ASAP as the first auction is coming up in June!

Thank you , Marian

#### Meeting Schedule

February 3-6, 2014 Golf Industry Show Wednesday February 5th—Lone Star Reception 7-10 The Rosen Centre Hotel, Orlando, FL March 25, 2014 Tour 18 April 29, 2014 Scholarship Tournament High Meadow Ranch GC May Lone Star GCSA Texas Cup

Register Now for Any Meeting!

#### STGCSA Christmas Reception at Brae Burn Country Club

Wow! Terry Gill and Brae Burn Country Club always go above and beyond for us! The heavy hors d'oeuvres turned in to a prime rib dinner and open bar! The decorations were amazing!

Thank you so much Terry Gill, Lisa Caruth and all the staff at Brae Burn Country Club for once again hosting a wonderful party.



#### 2013 STGCSA Legacy Scholarship Winners



Present to collect award: Presley Wilson, Mindy Neuendorff, Leigh Drabing, Phoebe Browne, Sarah Johnston, Colin Smith Not Present: Katherine Freeman (Legacy Winner), Jonathan Haven, Kimberly Wisdom, Dylan Rhoden

#### Tee To Green

#### January/February 2014

#### **Congratulations!**

Congratulations to Jeff Smelser, Golf Course Superintendent at Galveston Country Club, who was selected as one of 22 golf course superintendents to participate in the Syngenta Business Institute, a unique, educational program.

The Syngenta Business Institute is sponsored by Syngenta in conjunction with Wake Forest

University's graduate school of business and was held Dec. 9 to Dec. 12 in Winston-Salem, N.C. While agronomic expertise is critical to a superintendent's success, Syngenta also recognized the need to provide superintendents with business management tools.

Syngenta worked with Wake Forest to develop a program that focused on financial and human resources management, delegation and negotiation skills, effective communications techniques, managing generational differences and more.

He was selected from a talented pool of superintendents based on an application process that reviewed their educational background, industry achievements and an industry-related essay.

Stephen F Austin GC Golf Results

January 21, 2014



#### **First Place Gross**

Steven Chernosky 60 Nick Johnson Phillip Littlefield

#### Second Place Gross

Carter Hindes 63 Tanner Light Kelly Lawton

#### Third Place Gross

Kent Knowles 63 Rex VanHoose Chris Webster

#### Third Place Net Kody Key 58.8

**First Place Net** 

Braeden Riley

Gary Hargrove

Second Place Net

Brandon Cole 56.6

Jeff Smith

Tim Phillips

Kevin Borowski 56.4

Kody Key 58. Justin Lonan Cody Spivey



CTP #2—Justin Lonan CTP#5—Doug Browne CTP#14—Kelly Lawton CTP#17—Junior Schuette







Congratulations, George Cincotta for receiving the 2014 Sonny DuBose Award

2013 Sonny DuBose Award Presentation. From Left: 2014 STGCSA President, Blayne Sparks, Nominee, Carl Tolbert. Winner, George Cincotta. Nominee, John Freeman. 2013 STGCSA President, Sean Wilson.







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To all of you who golf at the monthly meetings and tournaments..... -concerning all monies leftover from skins and prizes awarded at meetings -



Started in 2013, if you win money at a golf event, the money must be picked up within two meetings after the prize was won or the money will be donated to the scholarship fund. This change is due to the tournament committee having to keep up with winnings for extended periods of time, sometimes over a year. Winners are posted online within a few days of the event so you can determine if you have prizes waiting for you well before the next event.

Prize and skin money will not be mailed. Thank you for your understanding! Reminder: Guests are not eligible for prize money



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### "See Who's New and See Who's Moved"

#### Welcome New Members:

Javier Gutierrez, Supt. at Kingwood-Lakes Course

John Story, Asst. Supt. at Walden on Lake Houston

Scott McVey and Carlyle Merring two new Asst. Supt.'s at The Club at Carlton Woods

Richard Alcaraz, Asst. Supt. at Bay Oaks CC

#### Welcome back:

Tom Werner, Territory Sales for Luber Bros.

#### On the move;

Clayton Creel is now the Supt. at Neches Pines GC

Derrick Hashimoto now the Asst. Supt. at Lake Windcrest Mitch Elliott now the Supt. at Kingwood CC

Kevin White is now a Sales Rep with Mustang Cat

If you are new to the area or have moved, email the office for the next issue

Click Here for All Job Postings

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#### Tee To Green



#### Did you know???

The trade show floor has:

A Floor Plan that you can scroll over each booth and find who you are looking for?

#### An Exhibitor List and Search

A New Product Showcase — In the months leading up to the trade show, look for a preview of the products and services that will be featured in the New Product Showcase on the Golf Industry Show's Facebook page.

Internet Cafes to stay connected and recharge those ios devises!

<u>Design and Construction Center</u>—A new service at this year's center will be complimentary design and construction consultations. Attendees can schedule half-hour appointments in advance. To book an appointment, complete the form and send to <u>D&CC@gcsaa.org</u>. <u>Design & Construction Center consultation appointment form</u>

Test Drive Technology Center-Showcasing the newest technology in the industry

<u>Partner Pavilion Presentations</u>—If you're interested in what golf is doing to grow the game and how you can be a part of it, be sure to stop by the Partner Pavilion for a series of presentations on new player development programs, guidance from experts, and tools that can help.

Silent Auction





Start donating your rounds4research golf for 2014 by contacting stgcsa@stgcsa.org

### Winter – Not a Holiday For Greens

#### By Bud White, director, Mid-Continent Region

The lower area of the Mid-Continent Region is in the coldest part of winter, and we are experiencing temperatures that call for attention. Superintendents must make sure that their bermudagrass greens are well hydrated during freeze/thaw cycles, especially under windy conditions that can quickly lead to desiccation. This is true for all dormant bermudagrass areas on the golf course – especially tees and mounds.

As a rule of thumb, most superintendents cover their greens when temperatures are going to be about 28°F or lower overnight, especially if it is windy or if the following day and night are colder-than-normal. If the following day is going to be warm, say, above 50°, many superintendents do not even cover the greens at 28-29° or above.

With bentgrass greens, playing on frosted, frozen, or partially-thawed greens is the biggest dilemma, and often the most heated argument! Golfers understand frost delays, but many believe that playing on frozen greens does no damage. To a large extent, this is simply not true unless the frost line is three to four inches deep and play is <u>extremely</u> light.

Greens thawed in the upper  $\frac{1}{2}$ " to  $\frac{1}{2}$ " are subject to the greatest degree of damage because, under traffic, the roots are sheared off at the frost line. Partially-thawed conditions usually occur when the weather is nice, and winter golfers are less tolerant of restrictions.

Golfers, be assured that winter damage can occur on greens, and you must adhere to the advice of the golf course superintendent on these decisions for both the short- and long-term health of the greens.

#### Being careful with spring premergents

Speaking of pre-emerge applications, we are having a 'winter kill winter' this year, and this should always prompt superintendents to look at upcoming applications for spring as related to potential winter damage areas. If areas have significant damage possibilities for winterkill, such as shade or traffic, then preemerge materials must be re-evaluated, as many will greatly inhibit reestablishment of turf cover and density. Oxadiazon is still the best material to apply if bermudagrass damage is suspected as it does not inhibit recovery or 'pegging down'. If budgets are restricted, you might consider using oxadiazon in only problem areas or those where thinning or loss has occurred.

#### How to test for viability

If you are worried about the extent of winter damage in any given area, an evaluation of this damage can be done any time before green-up. Remove a few plugs from suspect areas, pot them up in a root zone of topdressing sand and potting mix, and place them in a windowsill that has great morning sun exposure. Keep them watered and you could see green-up as early as three to four days. This method is helpful not only for evaluation purposes, but also for preemerge selection and possible sod purchase.

Nearly the entire country has been hit with extreme cold this winter. Being prepared for the winter is important, but thinking ahead and knowing what to do to help your greens recover as quickly as possible is as well. If the USGA Green Section can be of assistance in any way, please feel free to email or call <u>budwhite@usga.org</u> or call me at (972) 768-3245.



Central Texas GCSA (Jaci Powers)-512.507.8233—<u>www.ctgcsa.org</u> Lone Star GCSA (Marian Takushi) -281.494.0094-www.<u>lsgcsa.org</u> North Texas GCSA (Lori Goodrich)– 817.377.4552 <u>www.ntgcsa.org</u> Texas Gulf Coast SA (Darlene Curlee)-877.448.9944 www.tgcsa.org

Texas Turf Grass Association (Shirley Duble)-979.690.2201 www.texasturf.com

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January/February 2014





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#### January/February 2014

#### Presidents Message

"The only constant in life is change." –Heraclitus of Ephesus.

My how we have had some changes to deal with over the past few months. Everything from getting through the holidays, making New Year's resolutions and probably breaking a few of them already, to dealing with freezing weather and right back to warm again. Wow! It's been a lot, but now comes the time to settle back into those winter projects and wait for the Spring green up, whenever that might be.

For those of you who were in attendance at the TDA Pesticide Renewal seminar, we were treated to great education and terrible weather, but the lunch was terrific. A special thanks goes out to all of the vendors who provided the spray equipment for demonstration purposes (Luber/PTP/Brookside), as well as the breakfast items from BWI and drinks from Turfsmith's.

And yes, as always, we had a great turnout to kick off the new year at Stephen F. Austin Golf Course. It was extremely well attended by members and club officials alike, which I can only hope will continue through 2014. Ken Gorzycki did a phenomenal job of conveying the importance of best management practices of water usage and conservation to all attendees. It is topic that is very near and dear to the hearts and livelihoods of all superintendents. Also, I would like send out a special thanks to the Browne's and their staff for providing the STGCSA with a terrific event.

As a reminder, the Golf Industry Show is approaching quickly and I hope that everyone attending will take the time to visit the Lone Star reception on Wednesday night. It always proves to be a laugh riot and a great way to showcase the support for not only state of Texas, but also the South Texas Chapter.

Last, but certainly not least, I would like to thank the outgoing Board of Director's and all volunteers for their service and continued support of the STGCSA in 2013. I look forward to working with the newly elected board in continuing to perpetuate the prior successes of the South Texas Chapter and remain committed to providing great educational opportunities to our membership in 2014.



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#### Tee To Green





NGCOA NATIONAL GOLF COURSE OWNERS ASSOCIATION

#### NGCOA Will Honor Jack Nicklaus With Award of Merit During Association's Annual Conference

World Golf Hall of Famer and globally renowned course designer Jack Nicklaus will be honored as the recipient of the 2014 NGCOA Award of Merit during the Association's Annual Conference in Orlando, Fla. The Award of Merit is the NGCOA's longest-running award and is designated for long-term and significant contributions to the game of golf. Nicklaus will be honored during the Celebration Dinner and Awards Gala at the Rosen Centre Hotel on Wed., Feb. 5, at 6:30 p.m.

"Jack Nicklaus has made an unparalleled impact on the game of golf and we are privileged to bestow our Award of Merit on the 'Golden Bear' this year," said Mike Hughes, CEO of the NGCOA. "While his incredible playing career has set a standard for generations, his accomplishments as a course designer, businessman, philanthropist and NGCOA member truly make him deserving of our highest honor."

Over a championship career that spanned five decades, Nicklaus won 120 professional tournaments worldwide, including a record 18 major championship titles. One of only five golfers to win all four of golf's modern majors—and the only one to do so on the senior circuit—he also played on six Ryder Cup teams, captained two others, and served as U.S. captain for four Presidents Cup teams.

Nicklaus has been honored as "Golfer of the Century" or "Golfer of the Millennium" by almost every major golf media outlet in the world, and was tabbed as the Individual Male Athlete of the Century by Sports Illustrated and one of the 10 Greatest Athletes of the Century by ESPN. In 2005, the Golden Bear was honored at the White House with the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest honor given to any U.S. civilian.

His legacy on the course is being rivaled by the lasting mark he is currently leaving off the course, as well. The Golden Bear's thriving business, Nicklaus Design, has created 380 courses in 36 countries and 39 states, and has had no fewer than 75 courses appear in various national and international Top-100 lists. Nicklaus himself has been involved in the design of close to 290 of the firm's courses, no fewer than 100 of which have hosted a combined total of over 750 professional tournaments or national amateur championships.

His Ohio home club of Muirfield Village Golf Club—the recipient of the 2008 NGCOA Jemsek Award for Golf Course Excellence—just became the first in history to have hosted the Ryder Cup, Solheim Cup and now Presidents Cup. That began a run of three consecutive years in which Nicklaus courses will host the world's most prestigious international team event, with the 2014 Ryder Cup going to Gleneagles in Scotland and the 2015 Presidents Cup going to the Jack Nicklaus Golf Club Korea in New Songdo City.

Jack is also Co-Chairman of the privately held Nicklaus Companies, which for more than 40 years has provided services such as golf -course design, development of golf and real estate communities, and marketing and licensing golf products and services. Nicklausbranded products have been marketed worldwide since 1962. The Jack Nicklaus- and Golden Bear-branded lifestyle collection of products include: restaurants, beverages, wine, home appliances, flooring, cabinets, apparel, and footwear. In 2007, Nicklaus joined together with a like-minded partner in Howard Milstein, the Chairman of Emigrant Bank and now Co-Chairman of the Nicklaus Companies, to help further the growth of the company and to realize the full potential of the brands and branded businesses.

Jack and his wife Barbara have a long history of involvement in numerous charitable activities, from junior golf to children's hospitals to several scholarship foundations. Jack and Barbara are the guiding light for the Nicklaus Children's Health Care Foundation, which supports numerous pediatric health-care services in South Florida, as well as nationally, and has raised over \$24 million in just nine years.

In July 2013, Jack received the Ambassador of Golf Award, presented annually to a person who has fostered the ideals of the game on an international level and whose concern for others extends beyond the golf course.

The association also will recognize winners of the Jemsek Award for Golf Course Excellence; the Don Rossi Award for significant and long-lasting contributions to the NGCOA; the Champion Award for service to course owners at the state level; the Player Development Award for success in attracting new players to the game; and the Paul Porter Award for commitment, service and leadership to a chapter or international affiliate. The winner of the National Course of the Year Award will also be announced during the awards ceremony.





#### 2014 STGCSA Board brings back

#### Participation Rewards Point System

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 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 each 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.

\*3- additional points for 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.

If you RSVP and are a no show you lose your points for that event.  $% \mathcal{A} = \mathcal{A} = \mathcal{A}$  .

Points will start accumulating at the January 21st meeting at Stephen F Austin.

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. The Point system will be explained in detail at the January meeting. There are several ways to earn points, including volunteering for a committee. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Marian. We have several new tasks for 2014 that will require more than just the board members to accomplish.

Get Involved! We need your help





GCSAA chapters now have an innovative way to raise money for research in your area through <u>Rounds 4 Research</u>.

The Rounds 4 Research program was designed to address a critical shortage in turfgrass research funding by auctioning donated rounds of golf through an online auction, www.biddingforgood.com. The program is administered by the Environmental Institute for Golf, the philanthropic organization of GCSAA. Rounds 4 Research allows GCSAA chapters and turfgrass foundations to participate as fundraising partners with the 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. In its first year, R4R raised more than \$150,000 for turfgrass research. In 2014, R4R auctions will be held June 9-22 and Aug. 1-10.

Please contact <a href="mailto:stgcsa.org">stgcsa.org</a> to donate a round of gold today!

Help support research and South Texas GCSA at the same time!

