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SEPTEMBER 2014



The Official Publication of the South Texas
Golf Course Superintendents Association

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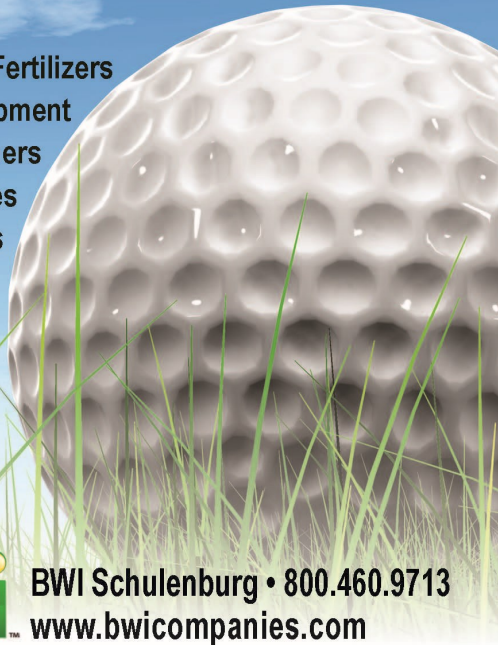


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Campus Course at Texas A&M—College Station

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Texas Golf Course BMP Plan – TEMPLATE

Lone Star GCSA has become active in developing/modifying a template for each Texas golf course to develop their own set of Best Management Practices (BMP). The most attractive model we have found for our use was developed by the University of Georgia for the Georgia GCSA several years ago. LSGCSA has received approval from the author to modify the Georgia document for use in Texas.

So what is a BMP? By definition, BEST is based on the most current science available, MANAGEMENT is to determine what is needed for each specific site, and PRACTICE is an implemented procedure that is ongoing and repeatable.

And why do we need a BMP plan? A BMP plan demonstrates professionalism and expertise. It also is a way to take credit for all the good things you already do. It identifies opportunities to improve your performance and validates your profession's message that we are good stewards of the environment.

Simply put, there are two methods of adopting BMPs.

Mandated Regulations – This method is very rigid, it is typically done without your input, there is little room for negotiation and is a “one size fits all” approach.

Develop Your Own BMPs – This method provides for flexibility within the industry, is self-administered and is site specific.

There is Little Doubt Which We Would Prefer! We need to all plan to get on board with this initiative. Ideally, we can develop an online template for courses to develop their own BMP plan.

Go to the Lone Star GCSA website at : www.lsgcsa.org and click on “BMP Plan” on the home page!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



It is hard to imagine that both football and cooler weather are just around the corner. Where has 2014 gone? As in years past, we as the Board of Director's always strive to provide the best educational and golfing experience that we possibly can to our association. I know that we have met many of those expectations, but there is always room for improvement. This is where the voice of the association needs to resonate. Without your feedback, we cannot grow or improve. So please, take an active role by providing your suggestions or your time and service to the board. Both would be greatly appreciated in helping us reach our common goals.

There will be an important proposed by-law change this year that needs to be voted on at the annual meeting, in order to fill some vacant positions. The Board of Director's has suggested increasing the total amount of affiliate members on the board from two (2) to three (3). Once again, we still need candidates to run for open positions. If you are interested in serving the STGCSA please contact Past President Sean Wilson.

This year's Holiday Party will be similar to last year's gala. In order to remain consistent, the Board has decided on a reception style party with an open bar and heavy Hors d'oeuvres. One big difference will be the timing of the event. Recognizing everyone's busy holiday schedule, we are going to move the holiday party back to follow the start of the New Year. Hopefully, this will help to reconcile some of the holiday scheduling conflicts and increase participation. The Legacy Scholarship recipients will again be recognized for their commitment to higher education and all award winners are encouraged to attend.

The Sonny Dubose Award winner will again be announced at the first meeting of 2015. It is always a great draw and gives our club officials a terrific perspective into our commitment to service.

As always, I look forward to seeing everyone at Cypress Lakes Golf Club in November and please clear your schedules for a great holiday party in January.

Blayne C. Sparks

Meeting Schedule

September 21,22, 23—Lone Star Texas Trophy –The Campus Course at Texas A&M

October 14- Past Presidents Lunch at Riverbend Country Club-10 am

November 4, 2014—Annual Meeting at Cypress Lakes Golf Club

January (TBA) - Holiday Reception

January 8, 2014—Pesticide License Renewal Class at Bear Creek

January TBA 2015—First Meeting of the year!

GOLF INDUSTRY SHOW-San Antonio, TX

February 21-26, 2015—San Antonio, Texas: Gonzalez Convention Center

Lone Star GCSA Reception—February 25, 2015 (Wednesday) - Pat Obrien's

For more details on any meeting above go to:

www.stgcsa.org

All job listings are posted on our

Website: www.stgcsa.org

Welcome new member

Kevin Bell, Superintendent at Contraband Bayou GC in Lake Charles

And Arturo Hernandez, Asst. Supt. at The Club at Falcon Point

Daryl Walker, Account Executive at Professional Turf Products



Running for 2015 President is Ben Fultz, Superintendent at Valley Crest at Wildcat GC.

"I have been on the Board for four years and enjoy being able to help. I hope to be elected to the presidency in order to continue the growth of the organization"

Running for Executive Board 2015



Running for Vice President: Chris Lineberger, Superintendent at Sugar Creek CC.

I served as Secretary/Treasurer of the MAGCSA prior to coming to Texas. I have sound knowledge of financials and managing funds. I enjoyed spending the last 4 years on the STGCSA board.

Candidates for STGCSA Board of Directors— 2014



Past President: Blayne Sparks of The Wilderness Golf Club

. "I would like to thank the association for the opportunity to represent them as President. I look forward to upholding the values and traditions set forth by my predecessors, as well as foster new ideas that can continue to grow this strong organization."



Running for Secretary/Treasurer: Cody Spivey of High Meadow Ranch GC

It has been an honor to serve on the board the last four years. I hope to continue my service on the board of our association that I have been a part of since 1997. The STGCSA has helped me grow in my endeavors and I appreciate now having the opportunity to help others in the same manner. I enjoy having the opportunity to help our association grow and be something we are all proud to be a part of.



Returning Board of Director: Kyle Brown of Bay Oaks Country Club

This year it has been my honor to serve on the board of directors for our association. I look forward to serving and making a positive difference again next year. Thank you.



Running for Affiliate Position: Dale Bowman of Pumps, Motors and Controls (PMC)

"I enjoy the people and the game and want to give back to those that gave to us. We are customer oriented and enjoy our work!"



Running for Board of Directors: Rodney Crow of Battleground Golf Club.

"I am excited to be a member of the South Texas GCSA, and although I am fairly new to the area, I would love the opportunity to give back to my fellow superintendents. I look forward to meeting and getting to know many more of you in the upcoming months and years!"



Running for Affiliate Board Member: Brandon Cole, Golf Account Executive for Professional Turf Products will be running for reelection for the affiliate Board position. I have enjoyed serving my fellow affiliate members for the past several years. We have made a lot of changes to better serve our association and its members and I will would love the opportunity to keep improving the STGCSA.



Returning Affiliate Director: Mark Baughman of AMC Industries

It's been my pleasure to be a member of STGCSA since 1992. I have enjoyed the relationships developed in that time. Would enjoy being part of the Board of Directors again. It has been a rewarding experience.



Running for Board of Director: Willy Plowman of Willow Fork CC

I am proud to be a part of STGCSA and thankful that I have had the experience of serving on the BOD and know given a second opportunity to serve. Looking back at our past leadership-I have to say it's quite an honor to join them once again and continue in building this chapter into one of the finest.



SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

Applications can be found on the home page of the website.

www.stgcsa.org

Application deadline is:

September 1, 2014

Official Transcript deadline is:

October 1, 2014



Running for affiliate position: Chris Webster of BWI

I would like to run for the available affiliate board position for 2015. I have been a member of STGCSA since 2000, and would be honored to contribute to the growth and sustainability of the association. Thanks for the opportunity to run.



Suggestion Box!

Please feel free to email stgcsa@stgcsa.org with your suggestions. We tend to get stuck in a rut sometimes and welcome new ideas and changes to our newsletter, website and association! You can also contact a Board Member with your ideas!

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Condolences

Our thoughts and prayers are with member, Doug Browne who lost his mother suddenly in August.

~~~~~  
*Former member Vincent Boelte lost his battle with cancer on August 5th. Vinnie was the assistant superintendent at the The Woodlands Resort, Ravens Nest and La Contera Resort in San Antonio before becoming the grounds supervisor at the University of Central Oklahoma. Our prayers go out to his wife, Kayli and all of his family.*



### Correction from July/August Issue

*Member, Carl Tolbert's sixth hole in one at High Meadow Ranch on July 21st was on Hole 16, hit with a 6 iron at 162 yards (not 153 yards as stated). Excellent job, Carl!*

*Carl Tolbert and fellow member, Ed Martinez won the member/guest at High Meadow Ranch Golf Club in August. Congratulation on that accomplishment as well!*





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Quote of the month;

*I'm hitting the woods just great, but I'm having a terrible time getting out of them.*

Jack Nicklaus

Dear Members,

I would like to inform you of a Special Project that the Board has decided to move forward with in 2014. The South Texas Chapter is going to refurbish (2) EZ-GO Golf Carts and Donate them to a special charity (TBD). A few years back we were able to give a 4 Seater cart to the VA Hospital downtown and we thought this would be a great year to start this program again and give back to our community. The cart was used to pick up Veterans and family members in the parking lots and drop them off at different locations. Eric Bauer was able to secure us with 2 – 2005 EZ-GO TXT golf carts from Blue Jack National and our plan is to have these units fully refurbished and ready to go @ our November meeting.

We will try to secure discounted parts and I have listed the parts and pricing needed below that we need. We are asking our members for donations to help us refurbish these carts and help us give back. Our plan is as follows: pick an item or items below that your club would help pay for and then South Texas will order the parts. You can purchase one or more Items depending on your budget, or just donate a dollar amount that we can combine with another donation to purchase one of the parts. South Texas Can send you an invoice. You may also have one of these parts, new and in the box, laying around your shop! We will take those too!!

We are asking for your help in supporting a great cause. Also, our plan moving forward is to Donate 1 or 2 carts each year. So, if you have an old golf cart laying around that needs a little work and you would like to donate it, please let us know. This will take a lot of effort on everyone's part, but please know that you are making a difference in the community and the lives of others.

We have discussed giving one of these units to the VA Hospital again and the other one to St. Jude's Children's Hospital. This will depend on these organizations needing or wanting to offer this service. Ultimately, we want these carts to be used in helping the less fortunate. If you have a suggestion on a great Charity, please let us know.

Here is the list of parts we need:

|                     |                 |            |
|---------------------|-----------------|------------|
| 2 -Battery Chargers | 611118          | \$315.00ea |
| 2 -Full Body Kits   | 750443PKG       | \$299.40ea |
| 2-Top 80"           | 603120          | \$227.40ea |
| 2-Windshileds       | 74910G01        | \$86.99ea  |
| 2-Front Bumpers     | 27166G04        | \$18.56ea  |
| 2-Rear Bumpers      | 71451G02        | \$47.89ea  |
| 2-Light Kits        | 74065G01        | \$419.00ea |
| 12-6 Volt Batteries | T105            | \$125.00ea |
| 1-Controller        | 609083          | \$393.19   |
| 8-Tires and Wheels  | 612772          | \$50.56ea  |
| 2-Seat Covers       | 71753G04        | \$48.80ea  |
| 2-Rear Seats        | 750272PKG (Tan) | \$335.00ea |
| 8-Wheel Covers      | 615618          | \$8.62ea   |
| 2-Battery Wire Kits | 750202PKG       | \$22.66ea  |

We would love for you to pick out and purchase a few of these parts. If ever Club or Affiliate in our association would purchase one or two Items, than this will be a very inexpensive project. Please let us know your thoughts and thank you for your generosity!

*Brandon Cole,*  
Membership Chairman





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**November 4, 2014**

**Cypress Lakes Golf Course  
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Annual Meeting Schedule

**November 4, 2014**

Cypress Lakes Golf Club  
18700 Cypresswood Dr.  
Cypress, TX 77429

9-9:30 am: Registration

10-11 am: Annual Meeting

(Voting of 2015 Board of Directors,  
Voting of Sonny DuBose Award Recipient )

11-12 pm: Lunch/Range is Open

12:00 pm: Shotgun Start

RSVP at: [stgcsa@stgcsa.org](mailto:stgcsa@stgcsa.org)

or on our website at: [www.stgcsa.org](http://www.stgcsa.org)



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## Proposed By-Law Change

This will be voted on at the annual meeting on November 4, 2014

Current:

### **ARTICLE VII. GOVERNMENT:**

SEC. 1 The conduct of affairs of the association shall be vested in the Board of Directors consisting of twelve (12) members, Past President, President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer, and six (6) Directors, and two (2) affiliates in a non-voting capacity. A majority of the voting members of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee (Past President, President, Vice President, and Secretary/Treasurer) shall be Class A Superintendents or Superintendent Members of the GCSAA. Up to two (2) Director Positions may be left vacant in a given year by majority vote of the Board of Directors.

SEC.2. Three (3) directors and one (1) affiliate shall be elected for two (2) year terms each year. The Affiliate Membership shall elect the affiliate directors.

Proposed Change:

### **ARTICLE VII. GOVERNMENT:**

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SEC.2. Three (3) directors and two (2) affiliates shall be elected for two (2) year terms each year. The Affiliate Membership shall elect the affiliate directors.

## Don't forget to nominate a deserving member for the Sonny DuBose Award

### The Winner will be announced at the January 2015 first meeting

The South Texas Chapter of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America is pleased to inform you of our seventh annual Sonny Dubose Memorial Distinguished Service Award. Our Association wants to recognize a Superintendent whose accomplishments have been outstanding for their facility over the year.

Recognition is what the Sonny Dubose Award is all about, letting someone know their hard work and dedication is appreciated. Anyone (superintendent or vendor) who has made an outstanding contribution to the advancement of the golf course management profession and the success of the STGCSA should be nominated. Still, a superintendent who has had an outstanding year deserves to be and should be nominated for the award. By adding a distinguished service aspect to it, we will hopefully increase nominations and be able to recognize more of those deserving members. Contact any past winner of the award or a STGCSA board member to submit a nomination.



Thank you for your consideration in this matter and please send any submissions to: [stgcsa@stgcsa.org](mailto:stgcsa@stgcsa.org)

From Left to Right: Randy Samoff (2010), Terry Gill (2008), Steven Chernosky (2012), Doug Browne (2011), Johnny Walker (2009), George Cincotta (2013)