

Volume 46, No. 6 August 2014

# **Employee Tournament**



St. Andrews Golf Club September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014

- Rotate, Rotate, Rotate
- A Life of Transition
- Employee Tournament



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#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope this newsletter finds everyone doing well. The summer of 2014 hasn't quite had the teeth thus far as some of the past years. But I know there have been other factors (untimely rains, floods, wind storms, staff shortages, etc.) that have challenged all of us so far this year even with the milder weather. August traditionally is a slower month then it comes to HEART activities and events, but I know that at your facilities that is not the case. The golf calendars tend to be full and



your focus turns to managing through the summer stresses caused by environmental stress, mechanical stress, and the physical stress of the job. These situations and stress factors make you start to wonder if you are the only one dealing with some of these situations. Well, I am here to tell you that your aren't the only one, because we all go through it at some point in time whether you are at a high end private facility or a daily fee public facility. My suggestions is to continue to push through those difficult times by trusting your staff and fellow employees, and making sure that you are getting yourself a break somewhere along the line so that you don't get the ever common summer burn out. Superintendents are all wired the same and tend to overwork ourselves during these difficult months trying to deliver the best product we can and thus cause ourselves more harm in the end. I would like to suggest that you try and take some time to unwind in whatever activity it is that gives you that release and go enjoy it and put the golf course in the rearview mirror for an afternoon or evening. You will come back refreshed and ready to go when you return and it will give your maintenance staff that much needed boost as well. Trust me I know these are hard practices to follow as I struggle constantly with it myself. However, once you experience the release and how refreshed you feel I think it will become a regular practice. Just remember we are one month closer to Fall!

Like I said earlier the HEART event calendar tends to slow down during the month of August to allow our members to focus on their jobs and manage the summer heat. However, I would like to encourage everyone to pay attention to the upcoming events in September and October and make it a point to be a part of these great events. You can check our calendar of events on our website at www.hagcsa.org or there are some details on some of the events in this newsletter.

Lastly I wanted to give everyone an update on the Rounds 4 Research auction that took place on June. I am pleased to announce that the HEART was able to generate close to \$3,800 in additional dollars that we will be able to allocate for future turfgrass research and scholarships. This is a tremendous amount of money that was raised and to all those that participated and donated rounds I would like to give you on behalf of the HEART Board of Directors a big THANK YOU! Those that were unaware of the auction there will be another auction again in August during the PGA Championship so this dollar amount will hopefully continue to increase. As always if you have any questions, comments, and or suggestions please feel free to contact me at todd@wolfcreekks.com or 913-592-3329.

### **Employee Tournament**

St. Andrews Golf Club Sept. 15th – 11:00 a.m.

As the summer continues to roll on through, the annual Employee Tournament is right around the corner. The tournament will be held September 15th at St. Andrews Golf Club. We are hoping that the weather will cooperate and it will be a cool, nice day. The tournament will allow superintendents, assistants and their employees to get away for the day, and reward themselves for making it through the heat of the summer. We are looking to keep costs down in order to make it affordable for employers to attend. To do that, we are asking for the help from many of our great vendors to help sponsor lunch/drinks. If anyone is interested or has any questions feel free to contact me. I would also like to thank Terry Rodenberg, his staff and everyone at St. Andrews Golf Club for hosting the event this year.



Terry Rodenberg has been superintendent at St. Andrews Golf Club since 1987, and has been employed by Overland Park since 1982. During his 31-year career at the golf course, he has overseen many different projects which have included: the construction of six new holes in

2007, the rebuild of all greens in 2005, the conversion of fairways to Zoysia grass from 1997-1999, a new clubhouse in 1997 and a new maintenance facility in 1996.

Rodenberg has received two prestigious awards which include the Heart of America Chapter 2008 Superintendent of the Year and the Heart of America Chapter 2013 Chester H. Mendenhall Award. If Terry is not playing a round of golf, you might find him at the bowling alley. Rodenberg has had two perfect 300 games.

I look forward to seeing you all in September and hope the rest of your summer goes well. Once again if anyone has any questions don't hesitate to contact me.

### Rounds4 Research Bidding Continues Aug. 1-10

Golfers will continue to have a chance to claim a tee time at their favorite courses, including PGA Championship host Valhalla Golf Club in Louisville, Ky., when the second phase of the 2014 Rounds 4 Research offerings become available for online bidding Aug. 1-10 at www.biddingforgood.com. Valhalla and other top courses, such as TPC San Antonio (Texas) and French Lick (Ind.) Resort, are among the nearly 300 rounds up for auction.

Rounds 4 Research is in its third year as a venture of the Environmental Institute for Golf (EIFG), the philanthropic arm of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA). It is presented in partnership with The Toro Co. Funds generated from the auction will go to support the research-based activities of GCSAA, its affiliated chapters and regional turfgrass organizations. Since launching in 2012, Rounds 4 Research has raised nearly \$300,000 for turfgrass research. The first phase of the 2014 program raised more than \$115,000.

"The response to Rounds 4 Research is up 7 percent from last year, and we are looking to keep the momentum going in August," said Rhett Evans, GCSAA chief executive officer. "Rounds 4 Research benefits research and the bidder alike. Golfers can gain entrance to some of the nation's top facilities, but they can also find great deals on other high-quality facilities that might not have national name recognition but still offer an enjoyable experience. "The work funded by R4R helps develop new grasses that can enhance conditions while at the same time improving sustainable management practices to ensure the long-term health of the environment and the game."

#### About the EIFG

The EIFG is the philanthropic organization of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, and has as its Continued on page 9

### **ROTATE, ROTATE!!!**

#### By John Dixon, Special Director

Back in January I attended my first HAGCSA Board of Directors meeting and received the assignment to write an article for the August Heartbeat. Through the rest of the winter I wondered what would be a pertinent topic to write about this summer. Would we have heavy disease pressure? Would insects be a problem? Would we be stuck in another prolonged drought period? All good questions that run through our minds while planning for the season, but impossible to answer in mid-January.

So I delayed picking a topic until the season got going. Surely once we hit spring weather, I could get a little bit of a feel for how our season was going to go. The problem was it took forever for spring to come. Winter just would not let go and the next thing I knew the calendar was turning to May, then to June and summer was here. Where had the first six months gone? Mild anxiety set in.

My next step was to read back through some of the fine articles already published this season in the Heartbeat. Somewhere in the archived articles I would find my inspiration. I found a gem from Steve Wilson in the April issue. He wrote about the top five "idiotic" things he had done on a golf course. Perfect, I have way more than five idiotic things I've done as a salesman. Like the time I drove from Wolf Creek all the way to Topeka Country Club with an open tailgate and two 4x6 lbs. cases of Heritage ready to fall out of the back of my truck. Not sure how I would have explained to my boss losing \$15,000 worth of product on the highway. Or the time I sat down at a bar in Tan-Tar-A with Mark Pierce and said "I'll have what he's having." The only thing I remember after that was Mark's wry smile when the bartender brought the first double gin and tonic to me. I'm sure Mark enjoyed that night a lot more than I did. Rest in peace my friend.

I also found a great article from John O'Leary in May about his love of the game of golf and how lucky we all are to be in this business. It reminded me of my introduction to the game of golf. My parents both played and at the age of six they let me play my first full nine holes of golf. After carding a smooth 53 that day I was hooked. I played as much as I could wherever I could throughout my school years. Then at the age of 16 while playing on hot July day I saw an employee of the course with no shoes or shirt syringing greens and himself. I thought that has to be the perfect summer job. The next season, despite of a change in the dress code rules that required

employees to wear shirts, I was working there. I didn't know that 28 years later I would still be working around the game that I love.

I could go on and on with stories related to these two articles, but realized it was better to come up with something different. Then it hit me. Using the same ideas over and over again is kind of like using the same fungicide over and over again. It will work great the first few times then the results will start to diminish. ROTATION of fungicides is essential for getting good results.

A good illustration of this was a visit I had with a young superintendent a few years ago. It was late June and he had been struggling with dollar spot all season and needed to get it under control and get his greens healthy headed into the stressful part of the season. We looked over his spray records and I found that he had applied Bayleton six consecutive times, at the lowest rate on the label. It was the only fungicide he was using and the dollar spot on his greens had become resistant.

Now this is an extreme example, but it still happens more than you think. Today we have so many combination products and generic products that it is crucial to pay attention to what you are actually spraying. It is also crucial to not only rotate the specific compound you are using but to also rotate the chemical family. DMI's, strobilurins, and benzimidazoles are just a few examples of chemical families that have several products belonging to them. Knowing the chemical family of the products you are using will help ensure that you are not using the same basic chemistry too frequently.

A good way to help yourself is to note the FRAC codes that are found on all fungicides now. FRAC is the Fungicide Resistance Action Committee that was formed in 1981 to better manage resistance to fungicides in agriculture. Today all fungicides will have FRAC codes on the labels. The following table lists products by FRAC Code, Chemical Family, Common/Trade Name, Mode of Action, and Resistance Risk.

Continued on next page

# **ROTATE, ROTATE, ROTATE!** Continued from page 3

FRAC CODE	CHEM FAMILY	COMMON/TRADE NAME	TYPE/MODE OF ACTION	RISISTANCE RISK
1	Benzimidazoles	(Thiophanate Methyl) 3336, Systemic Fungicide, Transom, T-Storm	Systemic Upward	High Risk
2	Dicarboximides	(Iprodione) Chipco 26GT, Chipco 26019, Fungicide X, (Vincozalin) Curalan, Touche	Local Penetrant	Medium Risk
3	Dimehtylation Inhibitors	(Multiple Actives) Banner Maxx, Bayleton, Eagle, Triton, Trinity, Torque, Tourney	Systemic Upward	Medium-High Risk
4	Acylalanines	(Mefenoxam) Subdue Maxx, Pythium Contro	Systemic Upward	Medium-High Risk
7	Carboxamides	(Boscalid) Emerald, Xzemplar (Flutolanil) Prostar	Systemic Upward	Medium Risk
11	Quinone Outside Inhibitor	(Strobilurin) Hertiage, Insignia, Compass, Disarm	Systemic Upward and Mesostemic	Medium-High Risk
12	Phenylpyrroles	(Fludioxonil) Medallion	Contact	Low Risk
14	Aromatic Hydrocarbons	(Chloroneb) Fungicide IX, PCNB	Contact	Low Risk
19	Polyoxins	(Polyoxin-D) Affirm, Endorse	Systemic Upward	Low-Medium Risk
21	Quinone Inside Inhibitors	(Cyazofamid) Segway	Limited Systemic	Medium-High Risk
28	Carbamates	(Propamocarb) Banol	Systemic Upward	Medium Risk
29	Dinitroanilines	(Fluazinam) Secure	Contact Multi-Site	Low Risk
33	Phosphonates	(Fosetyl- Al) Chipco Signature (Phos Acid) Fiata, Alude	Systemic Upward and Downward	Low Risk
43	Acylipicolides	(Fluopicolide) Stellar	Systemic Upward	Medium Risk
M1	Inorganic Metals	(Copper Hydroxide) Kocide, Junction	Contact	Low Risk
M3	Dithiocarbamates	(Mancozeb) Fore, Dithane, Protect	Contact Multi-Site	Low Risk
M5	Chloronitriles	(Chlorothalonil) Daconil, Mainsail, Manicure	Contact Multi-Site	Low Risk
Continued on n	ext page			

#### **ROTATE, ROTATE!**

Continued from page 4

It is also very important to know which chemicals make up the combination products that we commonly use today. The following table shows the Brand Names, what each product contains, and the FRAC Codes for combo products.

BRAND NAME	CONTAINS	FRAC CODES	
Concert	Banner Maxx & Daconil	3, M5	
Headway	Heritage & Banner Maxx	3,11	
Honor	Insi+gnia & Emerald	7,11	
Interface	Compass & Chicpo 26 GT	2,11	
Instrata	Banner Maxx, Daconil, & Medallion	3, 12, M5	
Lexicon	Insignia & Xzemplar	7,11	
Spectro 90	3336 & Chlorothalonil	1, M5	
Renown	Heritage & Daconil	11,M5	
Tartan	Compass & Bayleton	3,11	
26/36	3336 & 26019	1,2	

Always read fungicide labels, know the FRAC Code, and rotate, rotate!!



# NINE & DINE EVENT

(Honoring Past Presidents)



# Wednesday, September 10, 2014

Heart of America Golf Academy 7501 Blue River Road, Kansas City, MO 64132

11:00am - Registration & Lunch

12:00pm - Meeting & Program

1:00pm - Foot Golf or Regular Golf (9 holes)

\$20 per person; Past Presidents are FREE

#### **TOPIC/SPEAKER:**

"Foot Golf and Growing the Game of Golf" with Kevin Fateley, Superintendent, Wildcat Creek Golf Course

### **A Life of Transition**

By Kris Nelson, Director

When I first made the decision to enter the turf industry, I never imagined that I would experience as many different sides of the industry as I have. I have had vendors ask me how one goes from Golf Course Superintendent to General Manager to Mechanic to Golf Course Superintendent and back to General Manager. Well, I can say it was not by design.

Like many of you, I have always enjoyed working outdoors with the grounds staff. It is gratifying to see the outcome of one's hard work and tireless efforts. I have also found that spending a few hours on a mower can allow for a nice break from clubhouse politics. I never imagined that when my Tees and Greens Chairman asked me to help out and lend an occasional hand in the clubhouse, that I would end up being offered the position of General Manager.

The opportunity arose while I was the Superintendent at the Country Club of Blue Springs. It was 2008 and the economy had taken a downturn. Needless to say, we struggled to gain members and had an even more difficult time retaining them. In addition, I found myself serving not only as General Manager, but also as Food and Beverage Manager, Membership Relations Director, and even Pro-Shop Manager. Those four years took a toll on my family. My wife found herself raising our young children primarily on her own due to my long hours.

Together we decided something had to change. I decided to leave Blue Springs and return to turf maintenance so I could spend more time with my family. It was the best decision I have ever made.

Upon making the decision to leave Blue Springs, I was lucky enough to receive a call about a full time Equipment Managers position at Meadowbrook Country Club. After accepting the job and working at Meadowbrook for the rest of that season, Steve Wilson, Meadowbrook's Superintendent, accepted the Superintendent position at Milburn Country Club. I immediately applied and was offered the role of Superintendent at Meadowbrook Country Club.

I had just completed one full season as Superintendent at Meadowbrook when my General Manager accepted anew position at the Las Vegas Country Club. I was asked to apply for the GM position at Meadowbrook. While I was flattered and appreciative of the confidence being instilled in my abilities as a manager, I was confident that I did not want to relive my previous experience as a General Manager. I was also confident that if I took the position without discussing it with my wife my belongings would be packed on the driveway.

Continued on next page



#### **A Life of Transition**

Continued from page 6

After thoughtful consideration, I decided to step into the role on an interim basis. That would provide me the opportunity to observe the inner workings of the club while at the same time allowing me to see if it might be a good fit for my family. After spending a month in the clubhouse, I was able to see how much more enjoyable a GM position could be when the support of healthy departmental budgets and vital resources required to succeed. I then made the decision to maintain the role of General Manager.

Transitioning from one professional position to the next throughout the past few years has not been easy. However, I know that life could have been much more difficult if it hadn't have been for the unwavering support of my family and friends. I have always had an open mind when it comes to life's challenges. I simply try to learn as much as I can with each new opportunity. In the end, each new opportunity provided me with new skills that I will be able to use throughout the rest of my professional career.

I know times can be difficult in our industry, but I also know how strong our association is. We are fortunate to be surrounded by professional colleagues and friends who are willing to help each other succeed. I know that I would not be where I am today if it weren't for my professional experiences and the relationships I have built along the way. It's through

# LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP

funded by







The Heart of America GCSA Legacy Scholarship Award offers educational aid to the *children and grandchildren of HAGCSA members*. Award of \$2,000 is funded by Professional Turf Products and the TORO Company. The award is administered by the Heart of America Board of Trustees. Applications will be reviewed by an independent committee consisting of three high school educators and three college administrators. All decision of the committee will be final. Applicants will be notified of their status by mail. All scholarship award checks will be made payable to the applicant and his/her educational institution. If you are interested you may obtain



an application from the HAGCSA website: www.hagcsa.org/scholarships or by calling the Association Office at 816-561-5323. Deadline is November 3, 2014.

#### 2013 Legacy Scholarship Recipient

### **BENJAMIN NAUDET**

(son of Paul Naudet, Superintendent, Club of Porta Cima)

these connections that we create a network of professionals whom we call on when we come up against a problem for which we don't have a solution. I do not know what the future holds for me, however I do know that I am open to any new possibilities.

# Rounds4 Research Bidding Continues Aug. 1-10

mission to foster sustainability through research, awareness, education, programs and scholarships for the benefit of golf course management professionals, golf facilities and the game. With respect for the game and the environment, the EIFG inspires environmental, social and economic progress through golf for the benefit of communities. Collaboration between the golf industry, environmental interests and communities will lead to programs and services beneficial to all who come into contact with the game of golf. Visit the EIFG at www.eifg.org

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### **EMPLOYEE TOURNAMENT**



**DATE:** Monday, September 15, 2014

**LOCATION:** St. Andrews Golf Course

11099 W. 135th St. Overland Park, KS 66221

**HOST SUPERINTENDENT:** Terry Rodenberg

SCHEDULE: 10:30am - Registration & Lunch

12:00noon - Shotgun Start Following Golf - Awards & Raffle

REDUCED COST: \$30.00 per player (Includes: green fees, cart rentals, lunch, two drink tickets, raffle prize opportunities and hole prizes.)

Lunch Only - \$15 per person

FORMAT: 4 person schamble

DRESS CODE: Collared shirt - no denim - soft spikes only

☐ Yes, I/we p	olan to attend the	e Employee To	ournament!		
Player(s):				Company:	
CONTACT:					
PHONE:				EMAIL:	
PAYMENT:  Check Enclose	ed <b>□</b> Invoice(*)	☐ Credit Card:	No.:		
				:: d:	Expiration:

#### NOTE:

(\*) By requesting to be invoiced; you agree to <u>pay upon receipt</u>. All "No Shows" will be billed.

You may cancel without penalty 72 business hours prior to stated registration time.

Complete Form and Mail, Fax or Email no later than <u>Wednesday, September 10</u> to: HAGCSA, P.O. Box 419264, Kansas City, MO, 64141 816-561-5323/phone; 816-561-1991/fax; www.hagcsa.org

### **NINE & DINE**

### (honoring Past Presidents)

DATE: Wednesday, September 10, 2014

LOCATION: Heart of America Golf Academy

7501 Blue River Road Kansas City, MO 64132

**HOST SUPERINTENDENT:** Sam Bailey

SCHEDULE: 11:00am - Registration & Lunch

12:00pm - Meeting & Program

1:00pm - Foot Golf or Regular Golf (9 holes)

After Tournament - Awards

COST: \$20 per person; Past Presidents are FREE

TOPIC/SPEAKER: "Foot Golf and Growing the Game of Golf" with Kevin Fateley, Superintendent, Wildcat Creek Golf Course

Heart of America Chapter

Promoting the welfare of the game of golf, the professional image and well-being of individual members, and to unite golf course superintendents in this area.

**ALL** Members

are Invited to

Attend!

DRESS CODE: Country Club Attire (Collared Shirts, No Jeans or Cargo Pants). Please clean your soft spikes.

FORMAT: Play your own ball (golf) or soccer ball (foot golf)

RESERVATIONS: Mail, Fax or Email by September 5, 2014.

☐ Yes, I/we plan to attend the Nine	& Dine!	Playing <u>9 Holes</u>	g Options: <u>Foot Golf</u>
Player(s):	Company:		
Person to Contact and/or Invoice:			
Company: Full Address:			<u> </u>
Company: Full Address: Phone/Cell:			

#### NOTE:

(\*) By requesting to be invoiced; you agree to pay upon receipt. All "No Shows" will be billed.

You may cancel without penalty 72 business hours prior to stating registration time.

Complete Form and Mail, Fax or Email no later than **September 5** to: Heart of America Golf Course Superintendents Association

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