

Super/Pro Golf Challenge – Aug 3

August is a great time to talk to your peers in the region to learn about their successes of the season and ongoing challenges. We have the perfect opportunity for you to do so at the 21st Super/Pro Golf Challenge.

The Super/Pro Golf Challenge is one tool available to help strengthen the relationships of the facility key employees – which benefits the facility operations.

This central location is an opportunity to enjoy a great day of

golf. Join us at Jerome Country Club, Jerome, Idaho. Our host superintendent is Bart Brandell and the host professional is Troy Vitek.

Everyone is welcome to play, and we offer two flights to accommodate all teams: 1st Flight will consist of one of the following combinations from the same facility: Head Supt./Head Pro, Head Supt./Asst. Pro,

Asst. Supt/ Head Pro, Asst. Supt./Asst. Pro, 2nd Flight will include all other combinations. Hole sponsorships are welcome. Please contact tournament committee member Mark Spraktes or Lucas Sprague with your hole sponsor commitment.



Initiative for 50 States to Adopt Science-Based BMPs

The need for state-level BMP programs and, ultimately, golf facility-written BMP plans for nutrient, drought, and water management and integrated pest management (IPM) is greater than ever.

Our chapter has begun the process to develop BMPs for golf courses in the state of Idaho. Working closely with representatives from the Inland Empire GCSA, Gerald Flaherty, CGCS, is leading several volunteers from our chapter to assist in adopting science-based agronomic practices that support proactive environmental stewardship of the land. Several key areas will be addressed, such as nutrient use, drought and water management, integrated pest management and others. If you would like to assist with developing statewide BMPs, please contact Gerald.

idahogcsa.org

Our Fall Conference will be a Combined Event for 2017, in Coeur d'Alene!

After talking about it for years... the time has finally arrived! October 16 & 17, 2017, join the Idaho GCSA, Peaks & Prairies GCSA, and Inland Empire GCSA for a Fall Meeting and Trade show - years in the planning! The event will be held at the Coeur d'Alene Resort.



Idaho GCSA • Inland Empire GCSA • Peaks & Prairies GCSA

The overall event has created such a buzz - even outside of our region - and we need to be on top of planning.

When you receive conference registration - available by late June - please get it in! Don't wait till the deadline. To ensure we have enough hotel rooms and availability for golf - we need time to adjust space as needed.

The event will include many of the top turf speakers in the world, an informative trade show, and a friendly round of golf pitting the chapters against each other for bragging rights at the beautiful Coeur d'Alene Resort Golf Course. Conference registration will be available by late June.



Turf Equipment Technician Certificate Program

Training and skills recognition for EM and technicians

The Turf Equipment Technician Certificate Program is a series of exams designed to demonstrate proficiency in key competency areas related to turf equipment. This certificate program is available to any and all turf equipment technicians regardless of whether or not you work for a golf course. For more information visit gcsaa.org and find Certification & Exams under the education tab.



**Idaho GCSA
Board of Directors**

Officers

President - Gerald Flaherty, CGCS
The Valley Club
Office: (208) 788-5910
E-Mail: jerry@thevalleyclub.org

**Vice President -
Brian Roth, CGCS**
Oquirrh Hills Golf Course
Office: (435) 882-1445
E-Mail: brianr@tooelecify.org

**Secretary/Treasurer -
Lucas Sprague**
Canyon Springs Golf Course
Office: (208) 220-5750
E-Mail: turfmanager@gmail.com

Directors

Christopher Gray
Sun Valley Resort - Elkhorn Golf Club
Office: (208) 6224111
E-Mail: cgray@sunvalley.com

Brian Mickels, CGCS
Retired Superintendent
Cell: (775) 934-4911
E-Mail: bmickels1@outlook.com

Josh Benson
Idaho Falls Country Club
Office: (208) 522-1658
E-Mail: joshb@ifcountryclub.com

**Past President -
Mark Spraktes**
Pinecrest Golf Club
Office: (208) 612-8486
E-Mail: mdspraktes@yahoo.com

Allied Liaisons:
Greg Baer, Baer Design Group
Cell: (208) 859-1980
E-Mail: greg@baerdg.com
Travis Rose,
Simplot Partners
Cell: (208) 761-4194
E-Mail: Travis.Rose@simplot.com

Assistant Liaison - Jesse Vincent
The Club at SpurWing
Office: (208) 887-0040
E-Mail: JVincent@Spurwing.com

Editor
Lori Russell, Executive Director
Grass Clippings is published three times a year. Our newsletter is not copyrighted, but we would appreciate credit for original material.

Did you know the events shown on our website homepage are only a portion of events listed? Click on the News/Events tab to see a larger list.

The screenshot shows the Idaho GCSA website homepage. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'HOME', 'ABOUT', 'INFO', 'CLASSIFIEDS', 'NEWS AND EVENTS', 'MEMBER AREA', and 'CONTACT'. Below the navigation bar, there's a main content area with several sections. On the left, there's a green box with the text: "The Idaho Golf Course Superintendents Association is dedicated to helping its members provide the best playing conditions in an environmentally friendly manner." Below this, there's a section titled "We are linked together. Visit our links page to see what organizations we proud to link up with." and a "Grass Clippings" logo. In the center, there's a list of events: "FEB 10 Chapters of the Northwest Hospitality Room 2016", "FEB 23 Idaho GCSA Spring Meeting & Trade Show 2016", and "MAR 07 Peaks & Prairies GCSA 'Almost' Spring Meeting, Helena, Mont.". On the right, there's a section titled "Thank a Golf Course Superintendent" with a photo of a man and a red arrow pointing to a "Thank a Superintendent" button. Below that, there's an "ABOUT US" section with the text: "The Idaho Golf Course Superintendents Association..."

Welcome New Idaho GCSA Members!

Davey Elggren (D)
Turf Equipment & Irr.
PO Box 26903, Salt Lake City, UT 84104
Davey.Elggren@turfequip.com
801-566-5889

Greg Huffman (FM)
Pierce Park Greens
*974 N. Truckee Lane, Meridian, ID 83642
huffdady762001@yahoo.com
208-286-6651

Thomas DeGrandi (A)
Crane Creek Country Club
8338 W. Creekrun Way, Boise, ID 83714
tom@cranecreekcc.com
860-883-8589

Dylan Wilder (C)
Crane Creek Country Club
500 W. Curling, Boise, ID 83702
dylanwilder71@gmail.com
208-283-3887

The screenshot shows the GCSAA website. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'HOME', 'ABOUT', 'INFO', 'CLASSIFIEDS', 'NEWS AND EVENTS', 'MEMBER AREA', and 'CONTACT'. Below the navigation bar, there's a main content area with a 'Submit Job Listing' form. The form has fields for 'Job Title *', 'Introduction *', and 'Description *'. To the right of the form, there's a promotional message: "Don't forget to check out the job announcements! It is easy to post your job announcements! Sign into the website, click on job announcements under the member area, and scroll down the listing page till you see this." Below the form, there's a section titled "Info about Idaho GCSA website!" with three bullet points: "* Do you have an address change, for example? Changing the information on Your Profile in the Member's Area will automatically update the association's database! Use of proper capitalization and spelling is appreciated.", "* Do you have any classified items? Please be sure to complete the classified section in the Member's Area.", and "* Your username is always your password. If you do not have your password click on forgot password and follow the prompts." Below the bullet points, there's a section titled "www.idahogcsa.org" with a red arrow pointing to the website address.

Info about Idaho GCSA website!

- * Do you have an address change, for example? Changing the information on Your Profile in the Member's Area will automatically update the association's database! Use of proper capitalization and spelling is appreciated.
- * Do you have any classified items? Please be sure to complete the classified section in the

Member's Area.

- * Your username is always your password. If you do not have your password click on forgot password and follow the prompts.
- * Please remember to keep an eye on the job announcements and pass the information along to your fellow employees at your facility.

www.idahogcsa.org

Idaho GCSA

Lori Russell, Executive Director
P.O. Box 807, Lolo, MT, 59847
Office: (406) 273-0845 Fax: (406) 273-0791
E-Mail: idahogcsa@gcsa.myrf.net

www.idahogcsa.org

"The Idaho Golf Course Superintendents Association is dedicated to helping its members provide the best playing conditions in an environmentally friendly manner."



President's Message

Gerald Flaherty, CGCS, The Valley Club, Hailey, Idaho

Good thing Lori reminded me that my President's message was due yesterday! Like everyone else, we are just trying to get things in order from the long winter we experienced this year. It seems like we go from zero to sixty overnight as the winter suddenly decides to subside. It's really easy to get caught up in all the work that is

waiting for us throughout the season. Remember to take a breather and try to participate in some of the activities we have planned for this year.

The super-pro tournament is always a good get away. This year we will be playing at Jerome Country Club, August 3. Not only is it fun to break away from the norm, it's a good way to show off what we do as professionals. There is a good chance your golf pro thinks that you are the only one who needs to aerate, topdress or implement frost delays. Having the opportunity to spend a full day with your golf professional gives you both a great time to appreciate what the other endures in a day's work. So, really make a good effort to attend this event because chances are the course can get along without us for a day. If your pro can't attend, you can always bring someone else and enjoy the camaraderie.

For the past three years, we have been planning the 2017 fall conference at the Coeur d' Alene Resort. This will be a great event simply because of the location. I was told you can fly there on Southwest for \$108 round trip from Boise. Naturally, we have some great speakers lined up for the conference, but don't forget about just having the opportunity to get in some good golf and meet other superintendents outside our chapter.

Speaking of good golf, one of the reasons I waited until the very last minute to turn in this article is because I had the opportunity to go to the Masters at Augusta National. From the second

I arrived at the free parking, you knew it was special. The parking staff orchestrated the thousands of cars into the parking lots with extreme efficiency while remaining courteous throughout the day. The security staff was no different from the parking staff armed with politeness and smiles. After the security checkpoint, you knew you were at Augusta National; everything was extremely manicured. The rye grass over-seeding throughout the property was spot on! I had to get down on my knees to see if the turf on the north entrance was artificial or not. It was that perfect. There was no detail at Augusta that was forgotten. Every building detail was perfect, every lamppost, handrail, restroom, walkway and flower was perfect. I never saw a full trash can - they were always neat and emptied. Perfection is the only word that can describe the course. I walked the entire course my first morning and was amazed at the amount of planning and work that must go into this event.

You may or may not know this, but you can use your GCSAA Class A card to get into the Masters. It was simple – just show your ID and your membership card, and you are in. However, I did go on the website and they do explain if the rules are not followed, Augusta National will ask you leave and ban you for life from returning. The GCSAA website says that 18 members are banned to date for that reason. So, if you have the chance to go to the Masters, I strongly recommend you go, because it is a truly great experience from start to finish.

HARCO FITTINGS

Ductile Iron and HDPE Products



HARCO Ductile Iron

HARCO's ductile iron push-on joint fittings are designed to offer the best possible balance of strength, ductility, impact and corrosion resistance. These fittings are designed for use on IPS PVC pipe and steel pipe in underground water mains, irrigation systems, and sewer force mains. The push-on joint design provides for a deep socket bell to accommodate the expansion and contraction of a PVC piping system.

HARCO HDPE

HARCO offers fittings for HDPE pipe starting at 1/2" through 36"+. Both IPS and DIPS available as well as FM fittings. HARCO has developed a set of sources with long and proven experience in the manufacture of pipe fittings for HDPE pipe. We offer special fittings for irrigation applications utilizing our Swivel and Lateral Isolation Valve Products.



Tel: (208) 326-2220 Magic Valley, Idaho

Turfgrass Varieties:

100% Kentucky Bluegrass

Fine Fescue ★ Tall Fescue XRE

Blue Rye Blend Maintained at 7/8" mowing height

Proud Partner of Magic Valley Bentgrass



THE HARRINGTON CORPORATION
P.O. Box 10335 • Lynchburg, VA 24504-0335
Phone: (434) 845-7094 Fax: (434) 845-8562

sales@harcofittings.com
www.harcofittings.com

A record Boise winter, recruiting my kids to squeegee water off greens, some dead turf here and there, indefinite suspension without pay, and now a new position with a great club working with two awesome guys. What a winter!

I guess I will start by stating that no experience is a bad experience. The real question is what type of working environment and club is right for you during what chapter of your career? The answer is different for everyone. Like many, I have been working in the golf business ever since I could drive and it's all I really



satisfyingly resourceful.

No matter how bad or good I think I am at being a manager of turf grass, I always feel nervous before I walk through the next door. Then, quickly after meeting the new staff and getting comfortable with the new surroundings, it's funny how fast you put the past behind you and get right into enjoying the work with the new scene.

In recent years, there have been a few examples within our

The Value of Friends and Family During a Winter to Remember

Ben Wilmarth
Assistant Superintendent
Challenge Nine, The Club at SpurWing
Boise, Idaho

know. I have been with many great clubs and only one not so great club through the years and I truly believe that the diversity of experiences between them all makes you better and better.

So, if you feel that you have been blessed with only working with clubs that don't instruct you to duct tape an axe handle back together when it breaks, then I encourage you to try it for a while. It really does make you appreciate the finer things in our industry as well as make you oddly but

Club on further education and experiences with winter damage was put into place for those interested or concerned. The meeting proved to be another great example of local support where industry friends rallied together to help each other when needed the most. It was also nice to meet some new faces as well. Big thanks to Clint and Darryl at BanBury Golf Club for getting that meeting started.

With over seven years of experience managing turf grass in the ski town of McCall, for whatever reason, the

continued

greater Idaho group of superintendents taking care of one another when times get tough. You don't really understand the value and depth of it until it happens to you and your family. I have never been more appreciative. I offer a big thanks to those who have provided that kind of generosity and support to others in the group.

This last January, as the snow continued to accumulate and insulated a layer of ice on our greens, many of us valley superintendents started to get nervous about future problems, for good reason. A great meeting hosted by Rick Mooney and the Whitetail



From Reservoir to Rotor...

Rain Bird has you covered.



RAIN BIRD

To learn more, contact your local sales representative today!

Pete Morris
 Outside Sales
 (541) 604-5848
 pmorris@rainbird.com

Jason Westmoreland
 Inside Customer Support
 (888) 907-5535
 rbiservices@rainbird.com

Or visit: <https://golfstore.rainbird.com>

This Land is Loveland.

Servicing All Your Golf Course Needs
including Fertilizer, Chemical, and Seed

Signature

Agrium

SEED RESEARCH
OF OREGON
The germination of ideas



**Crop
Production
Services** 

Brian McGiff
(208) 589 - 3788
brian.mcgiff@cpsagu.com
Tom Gritzmacher
(208) 867-5687
tom.gritzmacher@cpsagu.com

www.cpsagu.com

ALWAYS READ AND FOLLOW LABEL DIRECTIONS.

Copyright © 2012, Loveland Products, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

C1912



property I was managing this last winter in Boise maintained a thawed profile through the entire duration of snow cover and accumulated very little ice. I stuck to my promise and let the snow melt off naturally whether I had the tools and staff to



remove it early or not. The only efforts that were made were in the last few weeks of melt off when Seth, my 11-year-old, helped me push standing water off greens late in the afternoons so puddles would not set up and freeze

overnight. The only turf injury that took place that I had anticipated from the beginning was from the constant sledding on the 6th green complex.

During these unseasonal wintery times, we quickly appreciate how many variables are involved when scratching our heads about what really causes winter damage. At the end of the day, we realize there are many things we can do to help relieve the pressure and potential damage to our properties and that Mother Nature never fails to bring an entirely different bucket of variables as soon as you think you have it all figured out!

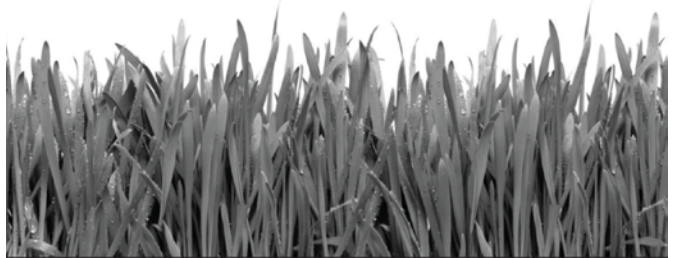
For those of you who experienced winter damage for the first time, I hope your recovery goes smoothly. It won't be long before any new frustrations created from this last winter become a long and distant memory.

Hope everyone has a great summer! See and talk to you soon!



SIMPLOT PARTNERS®

turf & horticulture



CONTROL PRODUCTS • PLANT NUTRIENTS • SEED • SPECIALTY PRODUCTS

Did You Know? For every bag of fertilizer you buy in Idaho from Simplot Partners we donate 50¢ to *The First Tee of Idaho*.

PROUDLY SPONSORS:



To participate in this program or get more information contact one of our sales representatives.

Pat Sherer: (208) 850-0736

Travis Rose: (208) 761-4194

Simplot Partners Office:

(208) 454-6343

www.simplotpartners.com



Golf

You have a lot of ground to cover. You're also a perfectionist. Toro's high-quality equipment and precision irrigation systems let you easily take care of every detail - with time to spare

Turf Equipment & Irrigation, Inc.

7479 Lemhi St. Boise Idaho. 83709

208-331-0074 (800-566-8873 Salt Lake)

Representing these fine partnerships



Office in Salt Lake City, St. George , Utah and Boise, Idaho

No Winter Slow Down

Kabe Hockema, Assistant Superintendent,
The Valley Club, Hailey, Idaho

What a winter it has been here, in Hailey, Idaho, with snow cover on the entire golf course from December until mid-March. I was excited to start seeing the snow melt and uncover the golf course we had left behind in the fall.

Over the winter months, snowfall totaled around fifty inches on the golf course and it never seemed to end. Being that it was my first winter in the mountains, I had no idea what to expect. I was anticipating a "lighter" schedule than what we had worked during the golf season. Originally, I had planned on having more time for fishing and making motorcycle trips down to the desert, however, I was wrong. Every weekend I was scheduled to plow, we got snow and lots of it. With the winter came new challenges and new tasks to learn that I had never done before. The first new skill was plowing, which I had no clue about. It is not as simple as it looks; deep snow, wet snow, cars left in the parking lot from the night before and light poles become obstacles I had to learn to maneuver around. I also had to do this very early in the morning when visibility is poor, snow is still falling, and you're tired from being on your sixth or seventh morning in a row of plowing. Thankfully, I have a great group of people to work alongside who were patient and persistent on teaching me how to work around these obstacles (excluding the light pole). And, by the end of the winter, I had gotten the hang of it.

Another task that we have here at The Valley Club during the winter months is grooming a cross-country ski trail throughout the golf course. I'm sure many of you are familiar with a snowmobile and groomer set up, but to me, it was completely foreign looking and seemed like something out of a Dr. Seuss book. However, I was excited to take on a new task. The first thing I learned about grooming and being outside in the Idaho cold was having the proper gear. With daytime temperatures only getting up to fifteen degrees Fahrenheit, it was important to layer up with as much clothing as possible. You also learn to appreciate the value of a good pair of gloves. The second thing I learned was to not let the sled and groomer go off the trail into the soft snow. Why? This would result in hours of shoveling and maneuvering of the two to get them back onto the trail. This happened to me a few too many times and I learned to stay far from the edges of the trail.

This past winter was harsh on wildlife here in the Wood River Valley. With so much snow on the valley floor, Idaho Fish



and Game established many feeding sites, one of them being right next to our maintenance facility. Attracting over one hundred elk, it

created quite a scene at work every day. Growing up in Oregon, I was used to seeing elk, but with the snow and the mountains in the background, it was something I

looked forward to seeing each morning. With having so many elk close to the course came the challenge of making sure the elk fencing around our greens was tight, secure and uncovered from the heavy snow. All in all, it wasn't the easiest winter I had experienced. However, it will be remembered.

Growing up on the Oregon coast and spending the last four years at Oregon State University in Corvallis, I was used to mainly one type of weather - rain. I think this is what made me want a change and head east to Idaho. Working the past three summers in the gem state, I knew that summertime was great, but the winters would be a new challenge. Harsh weather in the winter and shoulder seasons doesn't make managing a golf course in the mountains easy, either. With such a short growing season, there are many challenges my co-workers and I face on a daily basis. In the fall and spring you have the possibility of snow, cold temperatures, lightning and frost delays that go into the summer. Another challenge we face is time itself, as it seems like there is so much we try to get done in such a short time; we are always racing the clock. Whether it is aerification, monitoring the pump station, course projects, or keeping the crew motivated, all are a priority. These are all jobs we try to balance while providing great course conditions on a daily basis. One attribute I have learned this past year is patience. It doesn't help getting worried and anxious about variables you don't control, like the weather. All of us who work in this profession live our lives around weather and watch it closely and plan our best around it, and that's all we can do - plan and do our best. After surviving my first full year in Idaho, I am excited for the season we have ahead. Hopefully, there will be new challenges to meet and overcome, sunny days, and making time to play some golf.





Rennie L. Kubik
AEP - Northwest Regional Manager

10808 NE. 27th Court (360) 546-5954 office
Vancouver, WA 98686 (360) 546-5987 fax
renniek@amvac-chemical.com (360) 921-8019 cell
www.amvac-chemical.com



SILVER CREEK

Your trusted golf course supplier since 1984

**IRRIGATION
PAVERS
LIGHTING
HAND TOOLS
POND AERATION**

ANDY KELSO



208-631-7579

akelso@silvercreeksupply.com

Hunter[®]
Golf Irrigation



We Appreciate our Idaho GCSA Spring Meeting Sponsors!

Full Break Sponsor:
CPS Professional Products

Lunch Sponsor:
CPS Professional Products
Grigg Brothers

Break Co-Sponsors:
Amvac Environmental Products
C & B Operations
CPS Professional Products
Magic Valley Bentgrass
Rain Bird
RMT Equipment
Turf Equipment & Irr.

Event Sponsor:



Trade Show Food & Beverage

Sipcam Rotam
Rain Bird

Wilbur Ellis / The Andersons
CPS Professional Products

Hole sponsors:

Amvac Environmental Products
CPS Professional Products

Desert Green Turf

Nufarm

Rain Bird

Silver Creek Supply

Wilbur-Ellis Co.



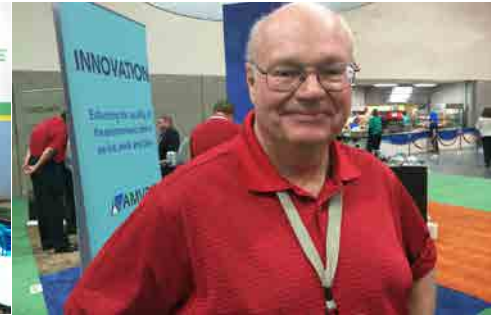
Allied partners reaching Platinum Status in 2016 were honored at the 2017 Spring Meeting!



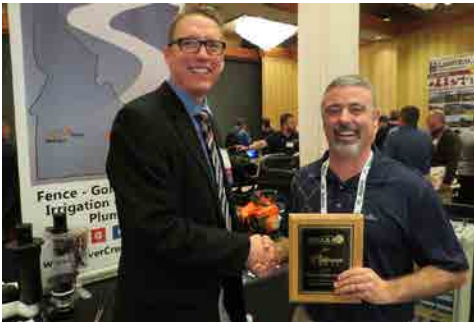
CPS Professional Products



C & B Operations



AMVAC Environmental Products



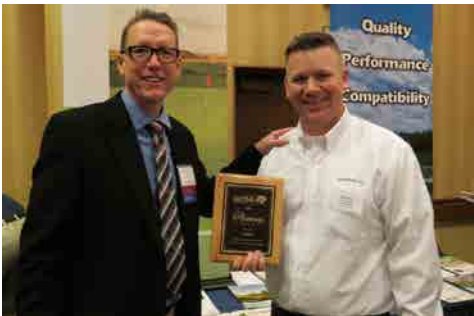
Silver Creek Supply



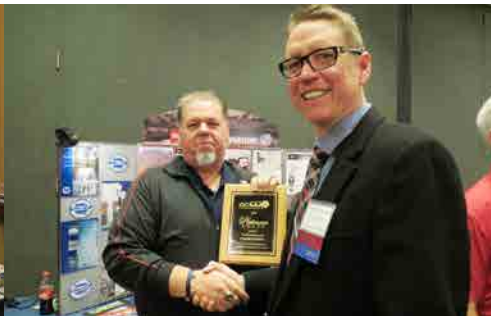
Wilbur Ellis/The Andersons



Rain Bird Golf



Winfield



Turf Equipment & Irrigation



Simplot Partners



Floratine Northwest



Grigg Bros



RMT Equipment



A Great Elevator Speech

David Phipps, GCSAA Northwest Field Staff



I know we've all heard about it, but how many times have you needed to use it? I'm talking about your elevator speech. Google defines an elevator speech as a clear, brief message or "commercial" about you. It communicates who you are, what you're looking for and how you can benefit a company or organization. It's typically about 30 seconds, the time it takes people to ride from the top to the bottom of a building in an elevator. If you are a superintendent or someone working in our industry, being prepared for that one time when someone asks you what you do, can make a big difference in how that person perceives you.



We all have our own elevator speech and are probably not even aware of it. Let's say you run into an old friend and they ask you "How's the family?". For the next 30 seconds, you will probably give them a brief update on the kids and your spouse and then you're

off to the next subject. This morning after my swim at the gym, I was enjoying the sauna for a few minutes and started a light conversation with a gentleman sitting across from me. He proceeded to ask me what I did for a living so I explained that I was a golf course superintendent by trade and am now currently working for

the golf course superintendents national association (GCSAA). I knew right away that this guy wasn't a golfer when he asked me how we keep the grass so green. I went into my elevator speech and told him how superintendents are always in the quest for knowledge and how we constantly work to reduce our inputs. Then I gave him my favorite analogy which worked out great since I wasn't wearing my shirt. As I patted my tummy I said, turfgrass is like you and me, if we over feed it and give it too much to drink, it becomes unhealthy. Right then, I saw that look in his eye. It was either the fact that he instantly got the point or he was repulsed by my budding spare tire. I would like to think it was the prior.

My point is, I gathered enough information in that short period to give him the golf course superintendents perspective on fertilizer and pesticide use. I feel like he left enlightened on our position and could probably tell someone else the same story. It's all about one victory at a time. We may not be able to change the masses in one fail swoop, but if we all work as individuals with a common message, or our elevator speech, we may be able make a difference just one encounter at a time.

UTILIZE RESOURCES WITH BMPS

**Blake Meentemeyer,
Agronomist,
USGA Green Section,
West Region**



As stewards of the land, superintendents manage a complex ecosystem of soil, grass, trees, water and native areas. Resource management is no longer a novelty – it's a way of life and it affects the bottom line. The goal of resource management is simple; make a golf course the very best it can be at a reasonable cost while bolstering its benefits to the plant-based ecosystem on which we play the game – i.e., economic and environmental sustainability.

Many superintendents have fostered best management practices (BMPs) to best utilize resources. BMP Case Studies highlight how superintendents are shaping the game on a local level and creating opportunities to share individual successes and hardships. They highlight some of the very best ways to get things done. To find case studies, simply use a web-based search engine and type in 'USGA BMP Case Studies' or go to the Course Care section of USGA.org to find a complete

list of case studies cooperatively written by USGA Green Section agronomists and golf course superintendents across the country. The USGA BMP Case Studies Interactive Map also is quite helpful to find case studies near your respective location.

While many of the case studies are site-specific, they offer a good starting point to help the industry work toward the GCSAA's initiative of having golf courses in all 50 states adopt science-based agronomic practices that support proactive environmental stewardship. The USGA is proud to collaborate with many of you and the GCSAA on this important project.

Do you have a unique way of doing things that saves time and money or bolsters the environmental benefits of golf? Please share your ideas with me this season, as I'm happy to showcase your facility and share your ideas with other superintendents throughout the country.

PLANT HEALTH BEGINS WITH SOIL HEALTH



HCU **NEW!**

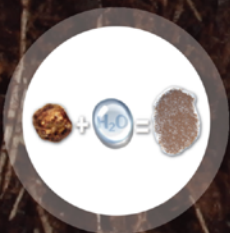
HCU (Humic Coated Urea) granules are an innovative nitrogen source featuring urea-humate fusion. This proprietary technology from The Andersons produces a cost effective 44-0-0 nitrogen granule that is bonded with potassium humate.



Foltec SG

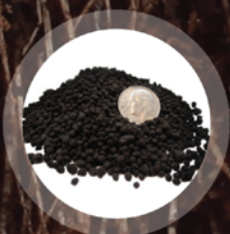
SOLUBLE | SENSIBLE | SUPERB

Introducing Foltec SG, a new, innovative foliar nutrient technology from The Andersons. Different by design, Foltec SG will change the way superintendents think about complex foliar nutrition programs.



Contec DG

Designed to optimize turf nutrition, Contec DG is a combination premium turf nutrients and The Andersons patented Dispersing Granule Technology. Experience enhanced nutrient distribution and improved playing conditions when you apply Contec DG.



Humic DG

Dispersing humic acid granules improve fertilizer efficiency, improve soil structure and enhance nutrient uptake. Humic DG's increased surface area provides greater efficiency at lower application rates than conventional screened humate.

©2017 The Andersons, Inc. All rights reserved. Foltec and Contec DG are registered trademarks of The Andersons, Inc. HCU and Humic DG are trademarks of The Andersons, Inc. D17

COUNT ON WILBUR-ELLIS® AND THE ANDERSONS® FOR ALL YOUR TURF CARE NEEDS!



WILBUR-ELLIS SPECIALISTS

MARK HASQUET
Caldwell, ID
208.459.1631

CRAIG NUTHAK
Twin Falls, ID
800.303.1887

JOHN FRANSON
Blackfoot, ID
208.681.5333

ANDERSONS TERRITORY MANAGER

ED PRICE: office 208.772.9290 | cell 509.981.9077

VISIT ANDERSONSPANTNUTRIENT.COM FOR MORE PRODUCT INFORMATION

A YEAR OF EXPERIENCES, OPTIMISM AND THANKS

Peter Grass, CGCS
Hilands Golf Club, Billings, Mont.

Having just completed a year as President of GCSAA, I am looking back on the people, places and responsibilities that were all intertwined within that year.

First of all, the title of President is reflective of the person responsible for heading up the Board of Directors, which, as a group of nine, is really the entire elected leadership of GCSAA. No one of the nine is any more or less important than another to the representation and governance of our Association. As a whole, our job is to give strategic guidance to Rhett Evans, our CEO, and then for he and our staff to carry out the mission, vision and values that GCSAA has established.

As President, my role differed from my previous seven years on the board in that it was my responsibility to be the main representative of GCSAA at major golf, industry and allied association events along with helping to organize and preside over our four quarterly Board meetings.

My year of representation was filled with so many unique and rewarding experiences that gave me a chance to share the stories about what our growing membership, now just over 17,800 members in 72 countries, does for the golf industry each day. Whether superintendents, greenkeepers, course managers, assistants, university teachers and researchers, allied association representatives or those representing our great industry partner companies, our members are passionate about their roles in this great sport and game that is "golf." Attending for at least a few days (often more at golf events like The Masters, US Open, PGA Championship and special bonus events last year), the Olympics and Ryder Cup were exciting and the reasons for being there were twofold. First, being able to meet, thank and interact with our members who work daily at those facilities and also the hundreds of members who volunteered on the maintenance staffs during those events. Second and equally important was to interact among the leadership of the major golf organizations, USGA, PGA of America, PGA Tour, R&A and Inter-national Golf Federation, to make sure that the work of our members was recognized as key to the success of those golf events. This meant being an "Ambassador", as such, for the hard work and long hours our members put in to make golf events such as these "majors", down to the everyday play at courses around the world, enjoyable for the participants and profitable for the facility or organization, of which they work.

The non-golf tournament area of representation was to attend conferences; the world (literally) of acronyms included BIGGA (England), CGSA (Canada), FEGGA (Europe), ASGCA (Architects), NGCOA (Owners), GCBAA (Builders), the annual meeting of the PGA of America and meetings with the leadership of the USGA and new PGA Tour Commissioner Jay Monahan. The main goal of this area of representation is exactly the same as mentioned above, but also be able, in one-on-one settings, to

discuss how our groups can work more closely together and better support our roles within the industry.

Looking back now as people have asked, "Was it fun, did you enjoy the experiences?" my answers have been, "Absolutely, it was fun (95% of the time, travel can be a pain sometimes) and my experiences were great." It was not without unique challenges at times, when you have that many members (and opinions), but it is a good thing when people are passionate and care about their profession so much. The people I was able to meet and places visited around the world were once in a lifetime opportunities. I ask myself, "Did I give more than I got?" I got a lot, but do truly feel that by my representation and the work of my fellow board members, Rhett and the GCSAA staff, plus the great work that you all as GCSAA members are doing, we have a great story to tell and the world of golf is listening. I have seen it firsthand and hope you feel, at your facility, the recognition and appreciation for what we contribute to the enjoyment of the game and stewardship of the land with which we are entrusted.

Representing Hilands Golf Club as a nine-hole facility, where I have spent my entire career, has been special and I am thankful for the board, membership and staff of HGC for their support and help, allowing me to serve as president. An extra special thanks to Stephen Grass and Jesse Bury, along with all of my other grounds staff (including former assistants NaTalia Arlint and James Thelen) covering for me while away and also many times while I was "home" but busy attending to GCSAA business. Think about your situation and thank those who make your life better and work hard at your facility. Remember that we work as a team to achieve all that we do.

What I have learned, and think that so many GCSAA continued page 16



Rhett Evans, CEO and Grass



Greg Baer

Irrigation Consultant

10027 N. Palisades Wy.

Boise, ID 83714

Ph. 208.859.1980

greg@baerdg.com

www.baerdg.com



Rooted in Science™

Your professional reputation and livelihood are dependent on the turfgrass you manage. That's why for 20 years Floratine products have been rooted in science — field-proven on more than 10,000 golf courses in over 30 countries and backed by university research. We have been, and will remain, proud supporters of the GCSAA and the Environmental Institute for Golf and their mission of advancing environmental sustainability through scientific turfgrass research. This commitment defines our dedication to you, the superintendent, and to our shared passion for providing the finest playable turfgrass surfaces possible.

RESULTS SU

- Two years of nutrition and low-dose fungicides for better resistance to Anthracnose than the control.

- A program using CONTACT fungicides with a targeted foliar nutrition plan will not only offer excellent disease protection but also reduce SYSTEMIC fungicide resistance.

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY



Among the pre-stress conditioning applications tested, Floratine scored highest in digital recovery analysis, quantitative canopy color and both visual recovery and quality.



UNTREATED - 5 Days after coring

FLORATINE - 5 Days after coring using 1/2 lines

Floratine Northwest Inc.

Richard Strautman

360-305-7619

stretch@floratinenw.com

www.floratinenw.com



Rooted in Science™

florafine.com/research



Course Construction? Careful There!

**Jeremiah Farmer, Hayden Lake
Country Club, Hayden, Idaho**

Anyone out there who has ever embarked on any type of course construction project, in-house or contracted, probably has a few good stories to tell... Since arriving here at Hayden Lake, all but one year of my tenure has involved a phase of construction. As each project contracted was directly related to the Long Range Plan for the golf course, we have completed several other 'in-house' projects, as well. When asked to write an article for the chapter newsletter, I thought that this would be a good opportunity to share a few 'lessons learned.'

Lesson One

Under promise and over deliver. I can't stress communication

and managing expectations enough. Course projects generate a lot of excitement and patrons want it done yesterday! As we all know, these things take time and there can be



numerous setbacks from materials procurement to weather. Excited participants will press you to commit to some arbitrary and unrealistic opening date; don't do it! Once expectations are set, anything less will create disappointment and lack of trust; something that none of us want! Therefore, give yourself a comfortable time table and let them know that you will do your best

continued page 18

Thanks

continued from page 14

members do not fully appreciate, is what OUR Association does for our profession, careers and the game of golf each day. It may not always seem that there is a direct result back to us from paying our dues, but I saw it every day in the programs, services, advocacy and overall caring to do the things that make our members and golf in general successful. As with anything we do or belong to, what we put into it directly reflects in what we are able to gain from it. I will leave you with this... use GCSAA and the resources



your membership provides to better yourself, your staff, and

your facility and that will carry over to making your career and the game in general better. Over many years now (thru my involvement in both Peaks & Prairies GCSA and GCSAA),

I have become a better boss, employee, leader, follower, friend, husband, and community member. By giving, I have received the friendship of so many and learned so much from those with whom I have been associated.

TOP PERFORMING
CULTIVARS

SAND ROOT ZONE

CUSTOM PRODUCTION
AVAILABLE

Premium Putting Green Sod

Matt Nelson OWNER
208.358.4420

www.magicvalleybentgrass.com
matt@magicvalleybentgrass.com

STEINER THUESSEN PLLC

GOLF COURSE ARCHITECTURE LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE IRRIGATION DESIGN

1925 Grand Avenue Billings, Montana, 59102 406-252-5545

www.steinerthuesen.com info@steinerthuesen.net

NEW AND IMPROVED
with added Magnesium

GARY'S GREEN ULTRA®

13-2-3 + micronutrients

6 PRODUCTS IN ONE

(no mixing required)

Gary's Green Ultra® is a sophisticated combination of Gary's Green® and Ultraplex® containing Grigg Brothers® exclusive Elicitor® technology and is designed for use in all seasons. Gary's Green Ultra® is an important component to most Grigg Brothers® foliar programs for improved plant health and stress tolerance. Gary's Green Ultra® includes the following components:

- **Macronutrients, N, P, and K**
(also available in a no Phosphate version)
- **A complete organically chelated, phosphate stable micronutrient package including Fe, Mn, Zn, Cu, and now with Magnesium.**
- **Additional Sea Plant extract (*Ascophyllum Nodosum*)**
- **Effective natural biostimulants, organic and amino acids.**
- **A water buffering agent.**
- **A natural, non-ionic and organic surfactant for improved foliar coverage and absorption.**



For more information
scan or link.
<http://gri.gg/info1318>



VISIT
<http://griggbros.com>



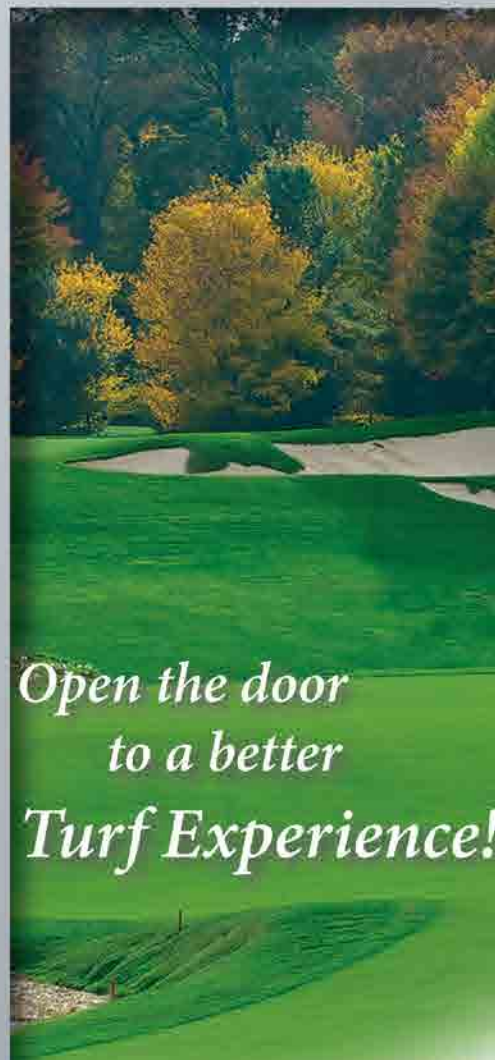
JOIN
<http://gri.gg/join>



LIKE
<http://gri.gg/fb>



SUBSCRIBE
<http://gri.gg/tv>



*Open the door
to a better
Turf Experience!*



Proven Foliar®

For a Distributor Near You Call:
1-888-246-8873
or find us on the web at: www.griggbros.com

Course Construction

continued from page 18

to deliver the final product ahead of schedule.

Lesson Two

There is such a thing as, 'too much' of a good thing; I learned this lesson the hard way. The one year without construction I mentioned above, I decided in late fall that we needed to renovate several bunkers on the course, in-house! Of course, they had to sit with sod liners and without sand in them until late spring the next year. That alone wasn't too bad, but I also failed to take into account the over 50 ground tree stump wells that needed repair from the previous winter's tree felling operation. Oh, and did I mention the many areas of ice damage on the fairways that spring, as well? Everywhere the members looked, something was torn up on the course and it wasn't repaired for weeks/ months. As good as my intentions were, I over estimated what we could accomplish in a given year, lost some leash with my GM and stressed out my staff pretty good. Needless to say, be very aware of the scope you and your staff can handle in a given period of time...

Lesson Three

Cover your butt! I, probably more than anyone, have annoyed ISTRC materials testing laboratories more than any customer they've ever had! Why? Because whether the project succeeds, or fails, I will always have a folder full of documentation to prove that I did my due diligence in making sure that all materials met spec! Not only do I recommend this for construction, but also for big decisions such as changing topdressing materials. You can do a great disservice to 'the next guy' if you fail to check compatibilities prior to changing sources.

Last Lesson: Never forget, your 'first' job is providing good playing conditions on the rest of the course! If you bite off a large in house project your membership will be proud of you; however, if you get lax in day-to-day course conditioning as a result, they will quickly lose patience with you! Trying to keep up with their expectations for the course and the project can be very taxing on both you and your staff so be certain that you can keep up with your first job, before you take on a second... ♦

Article reprinted from the Winter issue of the Inland Empire GCSA, "The Turf's Up"

Chapters of the Northwest Hospitality Room
We thank these sponsors who made this evening possible...

Gold Sponsors:
Grigg Bros.
Bayer Environmental
C & B Operations /Stotz Equipment
Midland Imp. Co./ Turf Equipment & Irrigation
Pacific Golf & Turf
RMT Equipment
Western Equipment
Wilbur-Ellis Co.

Silver Sponsors:
AMVAC
Crop Protection Services
Harco Fittings
Rain Bird
Simplot Partners
Syngenta

Bronze Sponsors:
Aquatrols
HD Fowler
Horizon Distributors
Ridgetop Golf
Walrath Sand Products
Planet Turf
Sustainable Pest Management Solutions
Southwest Turf
The Andersons





JOHN DEERE

C & B
Operations, LLC

sisis

STEC
OUTDOOR POWER

TRU-TURF

Golf & Sports Turf Rollers

AgriMetal



Sweep-N-Fill III
By **Dream Turf**
SWEEP-N-FILL.COM

C & B Operations

2105 INDUSTRIAL BLVD
IDAHO FALLS, ID 83401
(208) 522-6372

JASON AANESTAD

CELL: (208) 520-6743

aanestadj@deerequipment.com

www.deerequipment.com

IDAHO GCSA

P O Box 807

Lolo, MT 59807



idahogcsa.org

Our 2016 Platinum Sponsors

