

The Idaho Golf Course Superintendents Association

Grass Clippings

April 2019

Super/Pro Golf Challenge

July 29

The Super/Pro Golf Challenge is one tool available to help strengthen the relationships of the facility's key employees – which benefits the facility operations. Another opportunity it provides is to learn about your peer's successes and challenges of the season. All great reasons to be there.

Enjoy this opportunity for a great day of golf and join us at The Club at Spurwing. Our hosts are Jesse Vincent, GCS, Ryan Meredith, Dir. of Golf, and the host professional, Todd Binder.

Everyone is welcome to play, and we offer two flights to accommodate all teams. Hole sponsors are greatly appreciated! Online registration will be available soon.



Idaho on Track for BMP Completion in 2020

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 will officially begin the BMP process February, 2020, in Boise the day prior to the Spring Meeting & Trade Show. Along with the Inland Empire GCSA, we will be working with Stacey Kingsbury, who has managed the coordination and development of best management practices in numerous states across the country for GCSAA chapters. She is an environmental professional with over 28 years' experience in consulting, industry and state regulatory programs, a Masters in Environmental Management from Yale University, and expertise in water quality, environmental management and strategic communication. Since 2010, Ms. Kingsbury and her support team have focused primarily on providing project management and coordination, writing, editing, strategic communication and outreach for superintendent-led state golf course best management practices projects.

If you would like to participate on the task group to kick off the process and be a part of the discussion, please let Lori know. We will meet with Kingsbury Monday, February 24, 2020.

Chapter Leaders Symposium

Thank you to Joe Aholt, Hillcrest Country Club, Boise, Idaho, for attending the 2019 GCSAA Chapter Leaders/ Executive Symposium, GCSAA, Lawrence, Kans. Pictured below are Rick Hathaway PPGCSA, Lori Russell, Mike Bednar IEGCSA, and Joe Aholt IDGCSA.

The learning objectives of the program are:

- * Learn how to be a highly successful team leader for your facility and your chapter.

- * Understand

(cont. page 12)



2019 Auction a Success Thanks to Our Supportive Facilities!

The courses in the region once again stepped forward with incredible support participating in our silent auction held at the Boise Golf Expo. We can't thank you all, enough!

Our auction committee, lead by Travis Rose, did their magic. The rounds were gathered prior to the event, a mad rush took place with only hours to spare between the GIS and auction start, and a great group helped out in the booth each day. Thank you to Paul Venable, Joe Aholt and Mike Rapp who all took time in the booth along with Travis Rose, who spent the three days in the booth.



Repeat bidders look for our booth each year. As the event was near the end - many surrounding booths were already taken down. We had bidders staying with our booth protecting bids until the very end!

**Idaho GCSA
Board of Directors**

Officers

President - Brian Roth, CGCS

Oquirrh Hills Golf Course
Office: (435) 882-1445
E-Mail: brianr@tooeleciry.org

Vice President -

Josh Benson

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

Secretary/Treasurer -

Joe Aholt

Hillcrest Country Club
Cell: (208) 343-6563
E-Mail: joe@hillcrest.cc

Directors

Jason Sigmund

The Valley Club
Cell: (330) 606-6792
E-Mail: sigmunjs@yahoo.com

Bryce Burton

Star Valley View
Office: (307) 885-8686
E-Mail: nickib3@gmail.com

Josh Tolman

Salmon Valley Golf Course
Office: (208) 756-3877
E-Mail: joshkala@yahoo.com

Past President -

Gerald Flaherty, CGCS

The Valley Club
Office: (208) 788-5910
E-Mail: jerry@thevalleyclub.org

Allied Liaisons:

Travis Rose

Simplot Partners
Cell: (208) 761-4194
E-Mail: Travis.Rose@simplot.com

Doug Roberts

DryJect Turf Services
Cell: (208) 890-9535
E-Mail: flyidaho@yahoo.com

Assistant Liaison Paul Venable

Warm Springs Golf Course
Cell: (208)353-1952
E-Mail: pvenable@cityofboise.org

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.

Welcome New Idaho GCSA Members!

Jason Aguirre
RMT Equipment
4225 S. 500 W.

Salt Lake City, UT. 84123
jayson@rmtequipment.com
208-830-9682

Jason Anderson
Inman Interwest
105 South, 2775 West
West Point, UT 84015
janderson@inmanwater.com
801-698-1523

Justin Brandell
Jerome Country Club
290 Robins Ave.
Twin Falls, ID 83301
justinbrandell@gmail.com
(208) 358-4872

Joe Chavarria
Amvac Environmental Products
15902 NE Noble
Vancouver, WA 98682
joec@amvac-chemical.com
(360) 952-0399

Josh Gordy
RMT Equipment
4225 S. 500 W.

Salt Lake City, UT. 84123
josh@rmtequipment.com
801-633-2596

John Grist
Red Hawk Golf Course
12225 S. Hunters Point
Nampa, ID 83686
john@redhawkidaho.com
(706) 490-3417

Alex Helquist
The Club at Spurwing
*14452 W. Whitehawk St.
Boise, ID. 83713
ahelquist@spurwing.com
(208) 921-5124

Nick Korthals
Whitetail Golf Club
501 W. Lake Street
McCall, ID 83638
nkorthals@whitetailclub.com
(208) 739-8087

Brent Martin
Sand Creek Golf Course
6232 S 25th E
Idaho Falls, ID 83404
bmartin@idahofallsidaho.gov
(208) 709-3479

Brad Meyer
DBC Irrigation Supply
3601 East 22nd Street
Casper, WY 82609
brad.meyer@dbcirrigation.com

Austin Peterborg
RMT Equipment
4225 S. 500 W.
Salt Lake City, UT. 84123
austin@rmtequipment.com
801-633-2596

Cody Serr
Sage Lakes Golf Course
6162 N. 5th W
Idaho Falls, ID 83401
cody.serr@gmail.com

Trent Shelton
Aquatechnex
269 E 5th St Suite 109
Meridian, ID 83642
trent@aquatechnex.com
(208) 949-5070

Mike Scheel
HARCO Fittings
*2307 NW Iris Court
Camas, WA 98607
mscheel@harcofittings.com
(434) 382-7930



HOME ABOUT INFO CLASSIFIEDS NEWS AND EVENTS MEMBER AREA CONTACT



It is easy to post your job
announcements! Sign into the
website, click on job announce-
ments under the member area,
and scroll down the listing page
till you see this.

Submit Job Listing

Job Title *

Introduction *

Don't forget to
check out the job
announcements!

Info about Idaho GCSA website!

- * Do you have an address change, for exam-
ple? Changing the information on Your Profile
in the Member's Area will automatically update
the association's database! Use of proper capi-
talization 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 email address.
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.

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

Brian Roth, CGCS, Oquirrh Hills Golf Course, Tooele, Utah

Just when I think spring has arrived, it is winter, again. Sitting here on April 10, I'm watching it snow with three inches on the ground. For the most part, it is a nice break during the winter (for most of us) to step back, work on budgets and

plan projects, and repair and service equipment. But, about the end of February/first of March, I am usually ready to get back out there. I really enjoy spring on the golf course. The grass is starting to grow, trees are budding, and the days are getting warmer.

I want to especially thank Gerald (and Lori) for covering for me during the chapter meeting in February when I became ill. I was really looking forward to the meeting, speakers and trade show; I kind of feel like I missed out, even though I was there. I appreciated everyone's kind words and support.

As a new season starts, it is a good time to review and take stock of our maintenance operation and facility as a whole. We are all pretty on top of our individual agronomic programs and maintenance plans. Generally, we just have to throw in a new idea or two and maybe discard something that just didn't seem to work. But what about the relationship with the golf professional and pro shop staff? The last few years has seen the push for complete facility unity and working together to be successful. We need to look at the management of our facility as a team effort. We are all aware of the state of the golf industry - both nationally and in our local markets - and the need to "grow the game." All members of the golf course staff can, and should,

be a part of this effort. We have all either had, or have heard about, superintendent vs. golf pro experiences. Some experiences are good, others maybe not so much. But, I would suggest that the better we can work together, the more success we will have as a facility, and thus, individually and professionally.

We need to be committed to working together. I grimace when, even by speakers at GIS, I hear pros referred to as "sweater folders" or other such descriptions. I am sure that on "their side" there are similar references to the superintendent that are not complimentary. I would hope that we continually strive to develop more respect for those with whom we work, and who are part of our team. We need to have better communication. We need to better understand their position and what they do. How many of us would like to be stuck behind a counter dealing with customers who are not happy about the latest frost delay? We need to share with them not only what we do, but why. The more that they know and understand about what we do, the better off we will be. We need to discard the "us" and "them" mentality, and promote "we" and "us." I am sure there are pros/superintendents among us who have good relationships, but we all can do better. As we develop better relationships with the other members of our team, we will have an improved working environment and more success as a facility, whether that is in increased rounds, more revenue, better conditions, or increased customer satisfaction. What better advocate could we have than a well-informed golf professional, who knows and talks to golfers every day and hears their comments, who feels part of the "team," and "has your back," instead of "stabbing you in the back." *Wishing you all a successful and stress free summer!*

INTRODUCING THE NEW FACE OF GRIGG™

Premier turf products, backed by science and research

Since 1992, GRIGG has been committed to bringing new high quality, science-based nutrition products to the golf and sports market. GRIGG products are backed by university research and field testing, and customers are supported by seasoned GRIGG agronomists and turfgrass professionals. These are a few of the reasons GRIGG products are used and trusted by some of the most notable golf courses and sports stadiums in the world.



To learn more,
contact Michael Steve

michael.steve@brandt.co
330 618 1477



A Change in Goose Management Practices is Part 2 (an update) Long Overdue

**Joe Aholt, Superintendent, and Aaron Gross, Grounds Crew
Hillcrest Country Club, Boise, Idaho**

At this same time last year, I wrote an article about the long-standing problem between golf courses and Canada Geese. As indicated in the article, there is no question that the Canada Goose population is increasing every year. However, more was needed to be done before real change could be discussed. In order for the Idaho Department of Fish and Game and Fish and Wildlife Services to make real changes pertaining to laws, they needed to see a dollar amount.

Over the past 12 months, we kept track of the amount of time and dollars we spend each month attempting to keep Canadian Geese off our golf course, as well as time and costs for clean-up.

The true cost of materials and labor

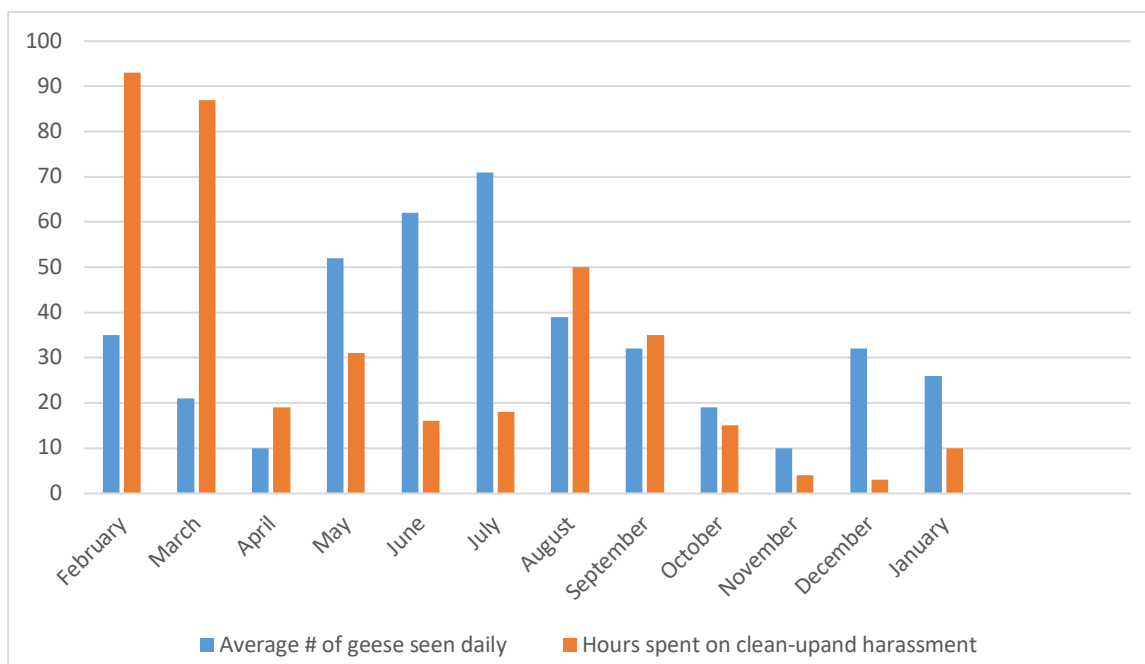
Figuring an average labor cost of \$12 an hour, over the past 12 months we spent \$18,500 in labor and another \$1,000 in materials for goose management. These expenses include clean-up, which would be criminal not to mention, considering each Canadian Goose drops up to three pounds of poop per day. On a warm day in July, when Geese frequent the property in high numbers (see graph), basic multiplication states that hypothetically there are 210 pounds of poop on our golf course per day, if we don't chase them off. Harassment and labor costs include using green lasers during low lit times of day, hazing with paintball guns, egg adding, coyote decoys, and a three-foot tall chicken wire fence to keep goslings off the golf course - spanning the

whole length of the New York Canal through the property (approximately 800 yards). These costs also include 55 visits

We represent only one open space from the Boise Greenbelt, to public parks, to businesses in the city, and any swath of grass in a public space in between.

from Steve Fuscher of Real Animal Management. This professional dog service is hired to chase geese off the golf course for approximately one hour each evening May through August. On a side note, if you refer to the graph, in November, December and January, you may also notice a lull in the average number of geese seen daily, as well as the hours spent on harassment and clean up. This past winter, we had three unexpected coyotes reside on the golf course until March, keeping goose visitations and clean-up to a minimum, and proving wild predators to be one of the best goose deterrents.

In one 12-month period, Hillcrest Country Club spent \$19,500 dollars in goose management costs alone. In Boise, we represent only one open space from the Boise Greenbelt, to public parks, to businesses in the city, and any swath of grass in a public space in between.





SILVER CREEK

Your trusted golf course supplier since 1984

**IRRIGATION
PAVERS
LIGHTING
HAND TOOLS
POND AERATION**



ANDY KELSO

208-631-7579

akelso@silvercreeksupply.com



Idaho GCSAA Spring Conference 2019

Grant Darrington, Assistant Superintendent
Falcon Crest Golf Club, Kuna, Idaho

Editor's Note - We are sharing this information to demonstrate the value of attending Idaho GCSA conferences.

The Spring Meeting & Trade Show featured two keynote speakers. The first was Paul Koch, PhD, who is a professor in the Plant Pathology Department at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Paul is among the leading researchers in the nation for the field of turfgrass management. The other was Hector Velazquez, a former equipment manager who started an online video series called Hector's Shop, which features videos designed to assist and inform golf course mechanics. Hector now travels the country with his family, assisting golf course mechanics, equipment managers, and superintendents everywhere he goes. The conference also had two other speakers, Todd Carlson and Adam Gerson (OSHA), as well as the commercial presentation auctioned for each meeting to an allied partner. We have captured several of the presentations here, demonstrating the educational value of our meetings. The education is just a part of the experience, which also included a trade show.

Paul Koch, PhD's first talk was titled, "The White Menace." He covered the four main areas in which a golf course can sustain injury during the winter months. The first and most obvious way that winter injury occurs is low temperature kill when snow is not present. Snow cover of more than eight inches keeps the

ground insulated at around 32 degrees Fahrenheit, but when there is no snow or not much snow, the grass becomes susceptible to the low air temperatures. Bent grass is much more resilient than Poa Annua, as bent grass can survive the cold until it gets below -40 degrees Fahrenheit, while Poa Annua can begin to die off at around -4 degrees. Another major cause of winter injury is desiccation. Desiccation is when grass becomes extremely dry, which can occur when there is no snow cover, particularly if there is a prevailing winter wind. It can also occur if there is a clear ice cover over the turfgrass. Ice cover causes another wintertime killer: toxic gas buildup. When ice cover is present, especially when the ice is clear and solid, there is no air exchange between the ground and the outside air, and it is possible for die off to occur when the ice cover remains for too long. Because of this, it is important to pay attention to how long any areas of the golf course are covered with ice. The final cause of winter injury that Paul discussed was fungus - mainly snow mold. As was previously mentioned, snow does a good job of insulating the grass from cold temperatures, keeping the ground temperature around 32 degrees. This snow cover can keep the leaf moist and if this happens for too long a period, snow mold may occur.

After Paul, we heard from Hector for the first time. Hector's first talk was titled, "The Tactical Technician." In this talk, he illustrated his main philosophies of what it takes to be a successful equipment manager and mechanic. Hector believes in a clean shop, he believes in communication, and he believes in thinking outside the box to solve problems effectively while sticking to a budget that works. He did a demonstration on how to build a jumper wire to troubleshoot electrical issues and showed proper techniques on how to solder. He also stressed that you don't always need the most expensive tools. Most of the tools he uses are Craftsman or Husky, which are both a little less expensive when it comes to tools. Overall, the talk was both informative and motivational.

continued page 8



TOP PERFORMING CULTIVARS

SAND ROOT ZONE

CUSTOM PRODUCTION AVAILABLE

Matt Nelson OWNER
208.358.4420

www.magicvalleybentgrass.com
matt@magicvalleybentgrass.com

MAGIC VALLEY
BENTGRASS
Premium Putting Green Sod



SOLVING
TODAY'S IRRIGATION
CHALLENGES



**Rain Bird International
Corporation –Services Division
Pacific Northwest**

ID, MT, WY

Pete Morris

541-604-5848

pmorris@rainbird.com

Oregon

Mark Willcutt

503-798-7203

mwillcutt@rainbird.com



JOHN DEERE

C & B
Operations, LLC

sisis

STEC
OUTDOOR POWER

TRU-TURF

Golf & Sports Turf Rollers

AgriMetal



Sweep-N-Fill III
By Dream Turf
SWEEPNFILL.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

The next talk was a change-up from the topic of golf course management, as we were blessed with the opportunity to hear from Todd Carlson, a former guard of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. This presentation was very inspiring. Todd told us his story: how he went from what he considered to be a very average 18-year old to being in one of the military's most elite positions. He spoke of the dedication and vision that it took to be able to operate at such a high level, as being an active duty guard of the Tomb is an incredibly demanding and time consuming position. The Tomb is guarded 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, no matter the weather. The soldiers take turns throughout the day and night, and they have an extremely specific routine on how to walk and stand during their time as the guard. The switching of the guard during the day is very ceremonial with many people watching. Most guards will serve about 18 months guarding the Tomb.

Paul Koch then took over again, this time he discussed, "Precision Disease Management." His main talking points surrounded something called the Smith-Kearns Dollar Spot Model, which is a model that can be used to properly time preventative spraying. Paul talked about how most superintendents typically do preventative spraying in a way that resembles an insurance policy, spraying at regular intervals and covering all areas when spraying, regardless of which spots need or don't need the chemicals. This Smith-Kearns model can help a superintendent have an approach that is more tailored to the current needs of the turf-grass. While it is hard to do, this method can save time, money, and if done correctly, have less of an impact on the environment. Timing of snow mold application was also discussed. Generally, you don't want to spray more than two weeks prior to snow cover, which is tough to guess correctly. It's obviously better to be early than to be caught with snow before you spray.

The final talk of the conference was given by Hector. He showed us a video about one of his 'Extreme Shop Maker-Overs,' which was a cool transformation to see. He spoke about having an online presence. Social media is a great tool to help others get information you may have and also maybe to help yourself personally find ways to tackle projects. He again stressed communication between mechanic and superintendent as well as between mechanic and crew operators. Overall, Hector preached a great theme; going the extra mile to create a successful work environment.



Innovation from the
ground up.

To give your turf a
leg up.

When you look at a fairway or a golf green, what do you see? For us, we see possibilities. We see the discovery and excitement of finding new ways to improve turf health with innovative, new technologies and agronomic products. That's why we're dedicated to Bringing Earth's Resources to Life.



Travis Rose

Simplot Partners | Caldwell, ID
travis.rose@simplot.com
cell: (208) 761-4194 | (208) 454-6343

Patrick Sherer

Simplot Partners | Caldwell, ID
patrick.sherer@simplot.com
cell: (208) 850-0736 | 208-454-6343

Discover more at
www.simplotpartners.com

© 2017 J.R. Simplot Company.



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



Turf Equipment & Irrigation, Inc. Salt Lake City, St. George, Utah & Boise, Idaho
Toll Free 800-566-8873 SLC 801-566-3256 or Boise 208-331-0074



2019 Spring Meeting & Trade Show!



Event Sponsor:
Amvac Environmental Products

Lunch Sponsor:
Amvac Environmental Products
Nutrien Solutions

Full Break Sponsor:
Nutrien Solutions

Break Co- Sponsor:
Magic Valley Bentgrass
Rain Bird International
RMT Equipment
Simplot Partners
Turf Equipment & Irrigation
Winfield United

Hole Sponsors:
Wilbur Ellis/The Andersons
Syngenta
Simplot Partners
Silver Creek Supply
Rain Bird
Nutrien Solutions
Hunter Industries



Trade Show Participants:

- Aquatechnex
- Affordable Tire & Specialty Co.
- Amvac Environmental Products
- Baer Golf Design
- Ballingham Golf & Turf
- Brandt Consolidated
- C & B Operations
- Dryject Turf Services
- EarthWorks Carbon Based Fertility
- Floratine Northwest
- Leemco Piping Solutions
- Nutrien Solutions
- Performance Resource Management
- Pipeco Irrigation Supply
- Precision Pumping Systems
- Rain Bird International
- Redox Turf
- RMT Equipment
- Silver Creek Supply
- Simplot Partners
- Turf Equipment & Irrigation
- Turf Solutions
- Watertronics
- Wilbur Ellis/The Andersons



Trade Show/Panel F & B:
Silver Creek Supply/
Hunter Industries
C & B Operations
Syngenta
Brandt Consolidated
Rain Bird
Wilbur Ellis/
The Andersons
Nutrien Solutions



Allied partners reaching Platinum Status in 2018 were honored at the 2019 Spring Meeting & Trade Show!



Recipients in order of pictures shown above:

**Turf Equipment & Irrigation/ Rain Bird Golf /
 AMVAC Environmental Products / Silver Creek Supply /
 C & B Operations / Nutrien Solutions / Floratine NW/
 Wilbur Ellis/The Andersons / Simplot Partners /
 RMT Equipment/ Magic Valley Bentgrass / Brandt Consolidated**



A Impressive View of the GCSAA!

Joe Aholt, Hillcrest Country Club, Boise, Idaho

I recently had the opportunity to attend the GCSAA Chapter Leader/ Executive Symposium at GCSAA headquarters in Lawrence, Kansas. This was my first time visiting national headquarters in Lawrence and to be honest, I didn't quite know what to expect. If you ever get the opportunity to visit, don't pass it up. What an opportunity it was to see how the GCSAA head-



quarters works on a national level. I noticed a myriad of talented people working to promote our profession from all angles - including political, gender, age, and the GCSAA brand. During the symposium, we focused on professional development; learning to be better

leaders, dealing with workplace discrimination, harassment, and how to connect with millennials. I had the opportunity to strengthen my friendship with Lori. I made new connections and friendships with other attendees from chapters across the country, including Mike Bednar from the Inland Empire GCSA, and Richard Hathaway from the Peaks & Prairies GCSA. It was great to connect with them and see how we all deal with many of the same issues when it comes to taking care of our golf courses.

Goals of Symposium continued from page 1

how to provide a more meaningful

Learn how to be a highly successful team leader for your facility and your chapter

Understand how to provide a more meaningful chapter experience, through the engagement of members and volunteer involvement

Develop a foundation to achieve chapter goals

Learn the critical components successful chapters share and how to make sure these are in place in your chapter

Build a professional network of peers who share best practices and innovative ideas

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. HARCO also offers Lateral Isolation Valves for use in golf and commercial irrigation projects.

HARCO HDPE

HARCO offers fittings for HDPE pipe starting at 1/2" through 36"+, with fittings available for both IPS and DIPS. We offer special fittings for irrigation applications utilizing our Swivel and Lateral Isolation Valve Products.



THE HARRINGTON CORPORATION
P.O. Box 10335 Lynchburg, VA 24506-0335
Phone: (434) 845-7094 Fax: (434) 845-8562
sales@harcofittings.com
www.harcofittings.com

Doug Roberts
CEO

DryJect[®]

Turf Services, Inc.

www.dryjectwest.com

2031 S. Elkhound Dr.
Meridian Idaho, 83642

Cell Phone: 208-890-9535
Office Phone: 208-996-0644
doug@dryjectwest.com

MAXIMUS
BY DryJect



*Possibility begins with
empowering you.*

No one knows your course from tee to green quite like you. But that will never keep us from nurturing the relationships you've grown to value with us as Crop Production Services. And now with even broader resources and capabilities, your Nutrien Solutions location is even more equipped to help you become a more capable superintendent than ever. nutrienagsolutions.com

Nutrien
Solutions

Tom Gritzmacher (208) 867-5687

tom.gritzmacher@nutrien.com

My Ryder Cup Experience

When I first heard about the opportunity to participate in setting up Le Golf National Golf Course for the Ryder Cup 2018, I was fascinated. But, I decided against it because I was afraid of the possibility of such an intense trip. After a bit of thinking, a big part of me said, “Just go for it. The worst that could happen is to not get chosen.” So, I said to myself, “What the heck. I have no less of a chance than anyone else and it wouldn’t take but fifteen minutes to fill out the application.”

When I got the call a month or two later saying that I had been chosen as one of the ten to represent the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA), it was a complete shock. I honestly couldn’t believe that it wasn’t a dream - until all the emails about what I needed to do started coming. Then, reality hit and it was just a wave of anticipation,

NaTalia Arlint, Superintendent
Polson Bay Golf Course, Polson, Mont.
The Perfect Lie March 2019

stress and a ton of excitement. It had actually happened to me! I was going to experience a once in a lifetime opportunity and be able to network with people from all over the world.

I began to make sure I had all necessary paperwork completed in order to travel internationally, as well as make sure my crew at home knew what was expected of them while I was gone. I was nervous to meet the nine other guys who were going to be joining me on this journey. Upon arriving at JFK airport and running into the first few guys, we all quickly found things in common that easily kept our conversations flowing. We were all from different parts of the country and even one from Canada. Our years of experience as well as backgrounds were varied from working on University golf courses, to municipal and some private. Getting to know each of them made the beginning of an amazing journey even better.

Upon arrival to France, we went straight from the airport to Le Golf National for our introductions and tour of the course. We were split into our groups the following day and we were told what our tasks were for the week to follow. The group I was in was in charge of mowing hole #1 and holes #15-18. Our group leader told us that we were in charge of some of the signature holes on the course. Our job was to take care of the island green #15, which in the morning created



the most beautiful sunrises. Our team consisted of 25 people who were broken into the tee mowing team, the greens mowing team, the stimp meter team, bunker raking team and finally the approach mowing team. I was placed on the tee mowing team along with two other guys.

Beginning the actual work was a little more nerve racking than I would like to admit. It was hard to get past in my mind that one mistake - no matter how small - could be a major one for a tournament of this magnitude. We were all there to help make this Ryder Cup one of the best there had ever been. The leader of our three-person tee mowing group was a worker at the Le Golf National. He, along with the second guy in our group, were the mowers, while I was appointed as the board mover and the final clean up person. At first, I was a little disappointed to not be doing

continued page 16



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 low-dose better resistance Anthracnose than June
- 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



appear...
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™

floratine.com/research



Ryder continued from page 14

something that in my mind was more important. I started thinking about how things work at my course and I realized something that would change my perspective of my job for the entire week: I remembered that it is always the final touch and small things that add up to the big things. Even though I was just blowing tee boxes off and moving boards for the tee mowers to turn around on, my job was one of the most important of all. I was in charge of making sure what the world was going to see on the TV was up to par and to the standards of what people expected from the Ryder cup. After I came to that conclusion on the first practice day, I gained a bunch of respect and understanding for all the little things that make up the complicated game of golf.

The break we all had between the morning shift and the afternoon shift was always exciting because it was when most of us got to know each other. The language barriers were extremely hard; although, I believe that everyone did a great job and had a lot of patience while we all figured out the best way to communicate. Alejandro Reyes, the superintendent of Le Golf National, was amazing both on and off the course in this aspect along with many others. He was able to speak both English and French, so he helped out with a bunch of language barriers along with most of his staff. The best part to watch was how much it seemed like charades was being played out to get what each person was trying to say across to someone else. During these breaks is when many great stories were told, some great laughs were shared, and bonds were created.

Being able to work the grounds and walk on the course with the pros was one of the most amazing experiences I will ever have. During the practice rounds I walked with one guy from the Netherlands, who was picked to rake bunkers behind Dustin Johnson's group, and my mind was blown. The caddies are hilarious and almost have the same attitude as their players. I was most surprised by how the players showed appreciation for all the grounds crew and how there was a sort of mutual respect between them and us. Being able to stand five to six feet away from players such as Tiger Woods, Dustin Johnson, Brooks Koepka, Rory McIlroy, and Ricky Fowler was a dream come true.

The first official day of the tournament I was blessed with being chosen as one of the greenskeepers to go and rake behind one of the groups. The group that I was chosen to rake behind was Tiger Woods's group. It was breathtaking to see how many people were there watching the event. Everywhere you looked



while following Tiger Woods seemed to be a sea of people. I can not say how it was for all of the other players since I was assigned to this one group, but it seemed like no matter where I looked all I could see were people. Even the amount of people who were allowed to walk inside the ropes with the players was large, in my opinion. It was hilarious to watch everyone's reaction to seeing a person walking inside the ropes holding a bunker rake. We did not leave any rakes in the bunkers, so we had to carry one along with us while we walked.

The last couple of days almost went by in a blur. There were so many things to do and almost no time to get them done. Luckily, when you have 180 people to do the job, everything gets covered in one way or another. It was very encouraging seeing 180 people from different parts of the world all coming together with one goal in mind - making Le Golf National look the best it possibly could for the week. It left me speechless watching people jump in when they saw the need and helping without being asked. Learning how other people did certain jobs inspired me to possibly try new things back home. It was hard not to just stand in awe of what had been accomplished during that week.

While the outcome for us Americans was not a win, I would have to say that the whole experience for me was a huge win. I learned more than I could have even imagined possible all while making connections with others that I am hoping will last a lifetime. Although I do have to say the best day I had there was when I got the chance to meet Rory McIlroy and he signed my hat. That is the day that made my trip the most epic one I have ever taken, and most likely will ever take.

I have been so blessed and am so thankful to the GCSAA for giving me this opportunity to be a part of such an amazing experience.

A graphic for Steiner Thuesen PLLC. At the top, the company name "STEINER THUESEN PLLC" is written in large, white, serif capital letters on a dark green background. Below the name, three services are listed in white, sans-serif capital letters: "GOLF COURSE ARCHITECTURE", "LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE", and "IRRIGATION DESIGN". The central part of the graphic features a topographic map with various colored lines (blue, red, pink, black) overlaid, representing site plans or irrigation layouts. At the bottom, contact information is provided in white, sans-serif text: "1925 Grand Avenue Billings, Montana, 59102 406-252-5545" and "www.steinerthuesen.com info@steinerthuesen.net".

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.

©2019 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. L17

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

THE ANDERSONS TERRITORY MANAGER

ED PRICE: office 208.772.9290 | cell 509.981.9077

VISIT ANDERSONSPANTNUTRIENT.COM FOR MORE PRODUCT INFORMATION

2019 Chapters of the Northwest Hospitality Room!

Friends and neighbors in the turf industry gathered together - all made possible thanks to these companies listed:

Gold Sponsors:
 Bayer Environmental Science
 Helena Agri-Enterprises
 John Deere/C & B Operations
 Midland Implement/Turf Equip & Irr.
 Pacific Golf & Turf
 RMT Equipment
 Simplot Partners
 Syngenta
 Western Equipment /Turf Star
 Wilbur-Ellis Co.

Silver
 AMVAC Environmental Products
 HD Fowler
 Lane Mountain Bunker Sand
 Magic Valley Bentgrass
 Rain Bird
 Winfield United

Bronze
 Airgronomics
 BASF
 EarthWorks Carbon Based Fertility
 Greenshield Systems
 HARCO Fittings
 Horizon Distributors Inc.
 Nutrien Solutions
 Planet Turf
 Ridgetop Golf
 Superior Tech Products
 Walrath Sand Products
 Sustainable Pest Management Solutions
 The Andersons





AMVAC®

SOMETIMES THE ANSWER TO ANTHRACNOSE IS A FOUR-LETTER WORD.

PCNB. It's been around awhile. But discovering that it controls anthracnose at highly effective levels? That's news. AMVAC's breakthrough premix of PCNB and tebuconazole, Premion fungicide, is getting attention. Formerly called Oreon, Premion delivers multiple modes of action against anthracnose. And it's just one of many answers to come from AMVAC that are worth talking about.

PREMION™

Important: Always read and follow label instructions. PREMION is EPA registered. Some products may not be registered for sale or use in all states or counties. Please check with your local extension service to ensure registration status.

©2018 AMVAC Chemical Corporation. All rights reserved. AMVAC and PREMION are trademarks owned by AMVAC Chemical Corporation. EIFG is a trademark of the Environmental Institute for Golf. www.amvac-chemical.com. A300-051514-8-8 6/18

AMVAC ANSWERS

LEARN MORE AT AMVACANSWERS.COM

IDAHO GCSA

P O Box 807

Lolo, MT 59807



idahogcsa.org

Reaching Platinum Level in 2018!



TURF EQUIPMENT
& IRRIGATION INC



RAIN  *BIRD*

RMT
EQUIPMENT

Nutrien
Solutions




Simplot
PARTNERS



BRANDT

 **AMVAC**