

# KENTUCKIANA KLIPPINGS

## GIS SCHOLARSHIP

The deadline for the GIS scholarship has been extended until Friday, December 2nd. The form must be completed and returned to [admin@kgcsa.info](mailto:admin@kgcsa.info) before this date. The application can be found on the member side of our website, [www.kgcsa.info](http://www.kgcsa.info). This \$1,500 scholarship is designed to help offset the costs of attending GCSAA's annual event being held in Orlando, Florida February 4-9. It is available to any current member of the KGCSA. Not a member? Log onto the website [www.kgcsa.info](http://www.kgcsa.info) for details on how to join. Take advantage of this opportunity today



*Louisville Country Club*

## 2016 KGCSA ASSISTANT'S MEETING

November 8<sup>th</sup>, Registration and Breakfast 8-9 am, program begins at 9am

Lunch and golf will follow

This year's edition of the Assistant's Meeting will be on November 8<sup>th</sup> at Louisville Country Club. Featured speakers will be former LCC Assistant Superintendent Jason Mahl and GCSAA Director Mark Jordan, CGCS.



Jason Mahl has been the golf course superintendent at Moraine Country Club in Kettering, Ohio since 2006. He has experience at three Top 100 golf courses including the #1 overall golf course in the world. He has successfully managed over \$10 million in capital projects. Previously, he was at Pine Valley Golf Club in Pine Valley, N.J., as the Senior Assistant Superintendent from 2005-2006 and Louisville Country Club in Louisville, Kentucky as the Assistant Superintendent from 2003-2005. He also worked as the Assistant Superintendent at Hurstbourne Country Club from 2002-2003 and at the Sharon Golf Club as the Apprentice Superintendent from 2000 to 2002. He received a degree from The Ohio State University in Turfgrass Management. He was the 2011 Superintendent of the Year-Miami Valley Golf Course Superintendents Association. He is a GCSAA Class A member, and has been a member of the association for 18 years. He has served on several GCSAA task groups.

Mark Jordan, CGCS, is serving the second year of a two-year term on the GCSAA Board of Directors. He was first appointed to the board at the association's 2014 annual meeting in Orlando, and was elected to the board at the 2015 meeting in San Antonio.

Jordan is the Natural Resources Leader at Westfield Group Country Club in Westfield Center, Ohio. He assumed that position in 2007, although he has been with the club since 1988, previously serving as general manager, club manager, superintendent and assistant superintendent. He previously served as assistant superintendent at Winding Hollow Golf Club in New Albany, Ohio, and Hyde Park Golf and Country Club in Cincinnati.

A 29-year member, Jordan is a past president of both the Northern Ohio GCSA and the Ohio Turf Foundation. He is also a board member for Play Golf Ohio and Ohio Pesticide Applicators for Responsible Regulation (OPARR).



A native of Nova, Ohio, Jordan graduated from the Ohio State University – ATI in Wooster, Ohio, with an associate's of applied science degree in Turfgrass management, and from the Ohio State University in Columbus with a Bachelor of Science degree in agronomy.

Jordan, his wife, Melinda, and their four children, Nate, Alaina, Janelle and Mckenna, reside in Westfield Center, Ohio.

# A message from Roger Meier, President KGCSA

It is quite amazing how time can just move right along. Another year has come and gone for our association which was recapped at our Annual Business meeting at Lake Forest Country Club on October 4<sup>th</sup>. It was a very eventful and busy night for the board of directors. For those of you that had missed it I wanted to recap and highlight the evening and some of the items discussed. Before I begin I must thank Brian Curtis and the entire Lake Forest CC team for a great day of golf and dinner.



In January the executive team and board of directors met with Steve Randall and Shane Conroy in a strategic planning session. Steve and Shane assisted in facilitating a very productive meeting that led to some great new initiatives for the KGCSA. Priorities that resulted from this session were creating a budget, increasing communication and continued focus on the association's endowment fund. Through the continued success of our fundraising efforts we would continue to deposit 50% into the endowment and direct 20% of annual funds raised towards Legacy Scholarships, 10% towards GIS Scholarships and 20% to subsidize meeting costs for our members. A \$2,000 grant from the GCSAA assisted us in developing a new website for the association, [kigcsa.info](http://kigcsa.info). In partnering with Talgrace Marketing we

continue to work on communication through our KGCSA App., website and constant contact email blasts.

The KGCSA saw a 40% growth in membership this year. We had 88 total members registered this past year. Secretary/Treasurer Brian Curtis reported to the membership the year's financials which were quite impressive. The KGCSA had the most successful fundraisers YTD which in turn led to the single most one-time deposit/contribution to the endowment fund. All members can access the financials on the new website under the member side. If you have not registered for the website this is certainly a great time to do so.

Damon Hitti and Mark Giuffre recapped our 2016 events which were highlighted by one of our most successful meetings of the year, the Annual Assistants meeting at Louisville Country Club with host Superintendent Ric Kehres. We had over 70 individuals in attendance and partnered with the KTC to involve students from our surrounding Turfgrass Management Universities. Pat Jones and Mark Vogt discussed industry trends and team leadership. The remaining schedule of events for the year were all successful which included the annual Mini Pesticide conference, the Powell Cup at Harmony Landing, fundraiser at Woodhaven Country Club and open golf day at Old Capital Golf Club.

David Beanblossom the tournament fundraiser chair shared with the group the continued and generous support of all of our sponsors, which in turn led to the most successful fundraiser year to date. Reynolds Golf & Turf, SiteOne and Lucas Oil were our Platinum sponsors for this year's tournament. We had many others who supported us at different levels and encourage everyone to go to the website to see who assisted us in our successes this year. As mentioned earlier our fundraising efforts allowed for the single largest one-time contribution to the endowment and achieve all our initiatives that were set forth in 2016.

John Ballard discussed the establishment and process through an independent committee of selecting Legacy and GIS scholarship recipients. He presented four Scholarships at the Annual Business meeting to sons and daughters of our members. Yancey Pritchett son of Walter Pritchett, Nicole Beanblossom daughter of David Beanblossom, Duncan Hitti son of Damon Hitti and Kaitlin Sullivan daughter of David Sullivan all were presented with scholarships to assist them with continuing education. The board of directors thanks everyone who submitted applications and will look to continue to award scholarships in 2017.

I want to thank our board of directors for the efforts put forth this year and look forward to another successful year in 2017. The focus of the board to give back to the members, the community in which we work and add value to your membership has been unprecedented. Please stay tuned for upcoming events and look forward to seeing everyone at Louisville Country Club on November 8<sup>th</sup> for another great Assistant's meeting.

Respectfully,

Roger Meier

KGCSA President

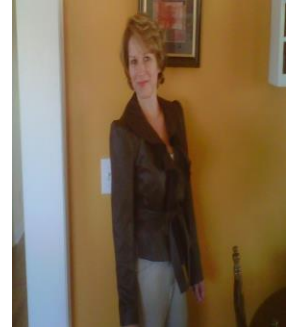
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## LISA BEANBLOSSOM, KGCSA EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

The KGCSA Board of Directors would like to officially introduce Lisa Beanblossom as the Executive Secretary. Lisa took over the role in June after Dave Sullivan stepped down to focus more time on his business "Shoots & Roots".

Lisa has been the office manager for Ackerson and Yahn PLLC for over 20 years. Her duties there include accounts payable and receiveable, payroll, insurance and retirement fund liason and preparing financial statements for the managing partners. She has an Associate Degree in accounting from Sullivan University. Lisa has been the best thing that has ever happened to me in my lifetime and I think all members of the KGCSA will see she will be the best thing to happen to our association.



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## MELROSE ACADEMY AWARD

Damon Hitti recently received the Melrose Leadership Academy Award through GCSAA and will have a full paid GIS along with classes that help develop his leadership role in the industry. Academy members were chosen through an application process based on financial need, volunteerism and drive to advance their careers. The new class will participate in networking and leadership activities.



The Melrose Leadership Academy supports the professional development of GCSAA member superintendents by providing the opportunity to attend the Golf Industry Show. The program was established in 2012 by Ken Melrose, retired CEO and chairman of the board of The Toro Co., and is supported by a \$1 million gift to the EIFG from the Kendrick B. Melrose Family Foundation.

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## LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS ANNOUNCED

One of the initiatives the BOD introduced this year was using funds from the Annual Fundraiser golf tournament to establish Legacy Scholarships for members' children and grandchildren. Winners were announced at the Annual Business Meeting earlier this month at Lake Forest CC. This year there were four applicants that received scholarships. They were as follows: Yancey Pritchett son of Walter Pritchett, Nicole Beanblossom daughter of David Beanblossom, Duncan Hitti son of Damon Hitti and Kaitlin Sullivan daughter of David Sullivan.





*Matt Shallock*

## **ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING RECAP**

This year's annual business meeting was held at Lake Forest CC on October 4<sup>th</sup>. It took over two hours to cover all the information and initiatives that was on the agenda. Legacy Scholarships, Endowment Fund, election of officers and winners of the golf tournament were a large part of the conversation.

The endowment fund continues to be the hot topic. All the debate and the survey that was taken shows a pretty equal opinion of how to proceed. A by-law change was discussed on the funding of the endowment as was how it could be used to further give back to the membership by giving free meeting admittance with paid memberships.

Outgoing board members Chase Best, David Beanblossom and John Ballard were presented with a plaque for their service and all chose to serve the BOD for another 2 years. Brent Downs has agreed to become the newest member to take on the job of Klippings editor replacing yours truly.

Matt Shallock was the winner of the Superintendent gross division with a score of 78 and will be the 2017 Powell Cup captain. Brad Mercer was the winner of the Superintendent net division. The vendor winners were Ed Brockman –gross and Chuck Breitenback – net.

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## **TIME TO SAY “SO LONG”**

As I mentioned in the story above I am stepping down as Klippings editor and passing the torch to Brent Downs. Brent is the Assistant Superintendent as Harmony Landing and will bring an enthusiastic voice for the Klippings. For me it has been a great experience and one that I have truly enjoyed. It has allowed me to become involved with the KGCSA and learn some of the history of the association. I have also been fortunate enough to meet and get to know a lot of people that I would have never been able to without taking on this project. I hope Brent will one day be able to say the same.

The Klippings was another thing in this business that Roger Meier gave me really good advice on. As his Assistant he told me how important it was to network and get to know people in this industry and I'm thankful he told me that and allowed me the time it took when I was his Assistant to do the job. I also want to thank Aaron Disselkamp, Bob Rogers, Mike Coy and Roger Meier for allowing me to be the editor during their time as President of the KGCSA.

My closing thought as editor is “be open for change”. Life is about change, we change from infants to children to adults to seniors to I hate to say it but dead is our final change. Some change is good, some not, but no matter what change is inevitable. The golf business has changed so much in the last 20 years as has the KGCSA. Information that was provided in monthly meetings years ago is now delivered to our hands via the internet in real time. Meeting attendance has fallen as this information change has taken place as well as the time needed to keep up with family and work obligations has increased. It's kind of amusing to think that this generation has more things to make our lives more convenient and yet we have less time than our parents and grandparents had 20-30 years living in a simpler, less technological time. This year's Board, working with GCSAA representatives set forth 3 initiatives to give back to the membership and increase attendance at association functions. I ask all to be “open to change” and give the new initiatives a chance. I've been to every board meeting this year and not once did the word “I” come up when talking about what needed to be done to benefit the membership most. It was always about the “entire membership”, nothing was ever personal. I encourage ALL to attend the Assistant's meeting on November 8<sup>th</sup> and see firsthand what this board is doing. The meeting may be geared for Assistants but there will be great information for everyone.

Thanks again for this opportunity to serve and most of all thanks for reading.

Sincerely

David Beanblossom