



FALL 2017 NEWSLETTER



Message from the President:

Roger Meier

As my time comes to an end as President of the KGCSA, I wanted to reach out to all our members one last time and give an update on the state of the association. We have accomplished a lot in the last two years. These accomplishments and the state in which our Association is currently in would not happen without the support and hard work of others. The KGCSA board of directors through my tenure has been amazing in executing all of the goals that were set forth in the beginning of my tenure. I want to personally thank everyone on the board for their time, passion and hard work.

In January of 2016, We began with a strategic planning session with the GCSAA that would really assist us in outlining a mission statement, vision statement, determining our purpose and ultimately a roadmap for the future. I think everyone on the board would agree that the session really gave us clear objectives for us to work towards. Those objectives were to create an operating budget, increase communication avenues and focus on revenue streams through fundraising efforts and our endowment. The third objective would ultimately allow for us to give back to members and add value to being a member of the KGCSA.

The board determined that proceeds from our fundraiser would be divided four ways. Fifty percent deposited into the endowment, twenty percent toward legacy scholarships, twenty percent to subsidizing meeting costs and ten percent toward GIS scholarship to assist a fellow peer who hasn't attended the Golf Industry Show. The fundraiser net profit in 2016 hosted at Woodhaven CC was \$15,500 and in 2017 was \$16,000 at University Louisville Golf Club. These successful events ran by both David Beanblossom in 2016 and John Ballard in 2017 has set the precedence for the future of the association and is key in funding our initiatives. In 2016 we awarded four legacy scholarships to Yancey Pritchett, Nicole Beanblossom, Kaitlin Sullivan and Duncan Hitti.

The GIS Scholarship was awarded to Dalton Morgan. We funded a charitable Christmas gathering in 2016 to benefit Toys for Tots. It was hosted by Walter Pritchett at Hurstbourne Country Club. The KGCSA also funded the 2017 mini pesticide meeting and will subsidize the Annual Business meeting hosted by Brian Curtis at Lake Forest, October 3rd. We will also be looking to another charitable event December 1st at Valhalla Golf Club. Most importantly we continue to contribute substantial monies toward our endowment. After meeting with Ameriprise directly and making some adjustments in investments we saw a 4.2% growth in eight months. The KGCSA endowment stands at \$82,642.56. Communication efforts were made through a new website KGCSA.info, the KGCSA App, quarterly newsletters, constant updates and email blasts created through constant contact. Lastly and most importantly was creating an operating budget for the association and increasing transparency throughout the board and the membership. The board hired Lisa Beanblossom, who I cannot thank enough for her knowledge and the work she put in, to organizing the associations financials. She is an absolute blessing to have involved in our association.

I really enjoyed my time on the board and serving our membership and am proud of the fact that we saw a 70% growth in membership since 2015. Our membership today consists of 106 Superintendents, Assistant Superintendents, Equipment Managers and Affiliates. I look forward to continuing to serve as president emeritus and assist the 2018 board transition. I would like to thank Josh Adams, Brian Curtis, John Ballard, Damon Hitti, Mark Guiffre, David Beanblossom, Chase Best and Matt Kamann for their dedicated service over the last two years. You all should be proud of the accomplishments and I want to personally thank you for your support!

Respectfully,

Roger Meier

KGCSA President 2016-2017



Hurricane Relief Fund

KGCSA is proud to announce we have donated \$1,000 to the GCSAA Hurricane Relief Fund. This money will go directly to help a GCSAA member rebuild their life and home following the devastation of both Harvey and Irma. We felt it was important for our association to be involved in the relief effort.

Annual Business Meeting



The KGCSA Annual business meeting will be held October 3rd, 2017 at Lake Forest Country Club. Class A Superintendent Brian Curtis will host. It will be a shotgun, followed by dinner, drinks, and the meeting. Shane Conroy and Keith Ihm from GCSAA will also be in attendance. We will hand out the legacy scholarships, hold board and officer elections, and discuss the future of our organization. Come out for a day of fun, fellowship, and have a say in our future. Sign up at www.kgesa.info.

11:30—Registration

12:00—Shotgun

5:30—Dinner

6:00-7:00—Meeting

Cost is \$20.00 for members for golf. The meeting is free for all members who attend. The cost for non-members is \$55.00.

Remaining Schedule



Assistants Meeting

November 7, 2017



Charitable Gathering

December 1, 2017



Get To Know A Superintendent: John G. Ballard, CGCS

John is a Tennessee native who graduated from the University of Tennessee in 1997 majoring in Ornamental Horticulture and Landscape Design and a minoring in Business Administration. He has managed golf courses at Cherokee Country Club in Knoxville, TN; the Club at Cordillera in Edwards, CO; and Pinehurst National in Pinehurst, NC before moving to Louisville and beginning work at Audubon Country Club. John spent 18 years with Audubon enabling them to become one of the premier courses in the region. He now brings this diverse experience to the University of Louisville Golf Club. John has served as president of the Kentucky Turfgrass Council and currently serves on the board of directors for the Kentuckiana Golf Course Superintendent's Association. He has been a member of the Golf Course Superintendent's Association since 1996 and received its highest ranking as Certified Golf Course Superintendent in 2010. He is married to his wife of 18 years, Christy and they have two sons, Grant (13) and Nicholas (10).

10 Questions with John Ballard:

1) Name 3 things in your utility vehicle that you never leave the shop without?

TDR, Soil Probe and Radio

2) Do you bleed Kentucky blue, Cardinal red or something else?

Cardinal Red

3) If you weren't in the golf business what would you be doing?

Something where I can lead people getting everyone to work towards common goals

4) Worst job you ever had if other than the one you have now?

Washing dishes in a Italian dive joint

5) If you could pick 3 people, dead or alive, to play golf with whom would they be?

Old Tom Morris, Jack Nicklaus and Eddie Vedder

6) If you were President what is the first thing you would do?

Limit terms. Too many lifelong politicians that aren't working for the people anymore.

7) What's your handicap?

7

8) Why did you get in the golf business?

Love of the game

