



Chapter Connect

Connecting North Texas GCSA Members through Communication, Information and Education

Spring 2020

Volume 28 Issue 1



2019 President Bryan Brown (L) and 2020 President KD Davis



Kevin Redburn (R)
AC and Garry Bearden
Superintendent of the Year



Alan Houdek (R)
Distinguished Service Award



Spencer McCasin (R)
Assistant Superintendent of
the Year



Enjoy great photos and stories from our fun night at Gilley's honoring NTGCSA Memebers!

A new golfing season is here and I'm proud to be serving our association as president for 2020. A quick background on me.

I'm a Buckeye, born and raised and a graduate of the Ohio State University in 1999. Two years later I made my way to Texas with the Nicklaus group as the Superintendent on projects in Georgetown at Cimarron Hills and then in Boerne at Cordillera Ranch. In 2010 I left Central Texas for nearly 7 years for Southern Hills Country Club in Tulsa but relocated back south of the Red River when the opportunity at Royal Oaks Country Club opened.

While in the Austin area, I met my wife and we have 4 kids. Our oldest is a Poke from the "other" OSU up in Stillwater and the younger three all attend Rockwall where my wife teaches Kindergarten.



**KD Davis CGCS
Golf Course Superintendent
Royal Oaks Country Club**

2020 is starting off strong for our Chapter. The Annual Banquet held at Gilley's was well attended and well received. We are already working on a fun venue on the other side of the Metroplex for next years event. The golf / education schedule is set for the 2020 season with incredible venues and value for the membership through networking and education. Stay tuned for the updates on when and where.

I would like to take a moment to promote the Rounds 4 Research program. This program allows us all to give towards our Chapter without having to dip directly into our own pockets. 80% of the money raised by courses in North Texas comes back to North Texas!!! This allows us to give as much as possible to scholarships and fund research with schools that support us. It only takes moments to join and I urge all to participate. North Texas is BLESSED with great golf and we need to showcase it! Besides, the money goes straight back into growing our side of the business. Please feel free to reach out to me, or any others on the board if you are on the fence about this incredible program.

Hope to see you soon at the next event.



**Rounds 4
Research**
GCSAA

SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING ROUNDS 4 RESEARCH

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, Rounds 4 Research 2020 has been postponed. Information on the future date for the auction is forthcoming. Donations are still being accepted.

www.eifg.org/research/rounds-4-research



Chapter Connect

About Us

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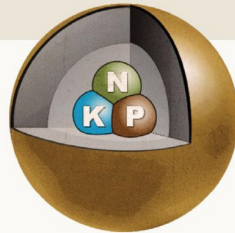
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March 18



March Chapter
Event
Education and
Golf



We are all aware of the important issues that required the chapter to make the very difficult decision to cancel our March and April events at Sherrill Park and Ridglea Country Club. The Board of Directors felt strongly that the health and safety of our members and their families was the highest priority. We hope everyone is understanding of the decision and any inconvenience it may have caused.

We also want to extend a very big thank you to our hosts at Sherrill Park and Ridglea for working with us on the schedule change. We appreciate your understanding and look forward to scheduling another event at your venue in the future.

Thank you to members Steve Greenhaw and Duane Janssen CGCS the host Superintendents and your staff for inviting us to your beautiful golf courses.

And of course, thank you to our always generous sponsors who were ready to make it a great day! We look forward to getting back on track soon!

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A message from President KD Davis regarding the Corvid 19 Issue

Sent to NTGCSA Membership March 25, 2020

Monday afternoon Judge Clay Jenkins addressed Dallas County and I assume many neighboring counties will follow suit if they have not already. In his Order he clarified what is pertinent to us as golf course managers. Highlighted is what pertains to us specifically.

Section 2.b.vi, the Order reads:

*Essential Services Necessary to Maintain Essential Operations of Residences or Other Essential Businesses. Trash and recycling collection, **landscaping services**, processing and disposal, mail, shipping and delivery services, **building cleaning, maintenance** and security, warehouse/distribution and fulfillment, storage for essential businesses, moving services for residential and essential businesses, funeral homes, crematoriums and cemeteries. Plumbers, electricians, exterminators, and **other service providers who provide services that are necessary to maintaining the safety**, sanitation, and essential operations of residences and Essential Businesses. Professional services, such as legal or accounting services, when necessary to assist in compliance with legally mandated activities. Businesses that supply other essential businesses with the support or supplies needed to operate. **To the extent possible, services shall be provided in compliance with Social Distancing Guidelines attached, including distancing of six feet and routine use of hand sanitizer.***

We all fall under landscaping services, whether private or commercial. I have passed this order to several knowledgeable people in the City of Dallas, GCSAA, and numerous other contacts to ensure I was interpreting it correctly. I have been assured by all, both in the state of Texas and surrounding areas that we are.

In the past 24 hours, I have worked diligently along with North Texas GCSA board members and members of our allied North Texas Golf groups to get a template/formal letter requesting golf course

maintenance to be included in essential activities. I have signatures of all these entities to support us and feel if the time comes and there is a need, we can immediately get this to all parties to disperse. Until then, the advice I have been given by those who have made a living in government operations is to not draw attention to something that is already covered as being essential, and simply operate under the guidelines mentioned in section 2 of the Ordinance above.

However, we must take the necessary steps to ensure the safety of our staff and thus limit the transmission of the virus. Please check out the GCSAA website, which has several resources for you to draw upon and the Forums are active as well. Attached are a few of the links.

https://www.gcsaa.org/docs/default-source/resources/covid-19_gcsaa_v4.pdf?sfvrsn=2f7dfa3e_0

<https://www.gcsaa.org/media/news/news-Items/2020/gcsaa-is-prepared-to-serve-you-during-the-covid-19-pandemic>

This is an opportunity to be a creative bunch and lead our facilities through this. This pandemic will end at some point and we will all have some stories to share when we are able to gather as a group again. We as a Board are all excited at the thought of that day.

Remember, we are known as good stewards of land, budgets, water and other resources. Lets make sure that stewardship extends to the health of our teams as well.

Please contact me, or other members of the NTGCSA board with any questions you may have.

**KD Davis, CGCS
Golf Course Superintendent
President - North Texas GCSA
Royal Oaks Country Club
7915 Greenville Avenue
Dallas, Texas 75231**

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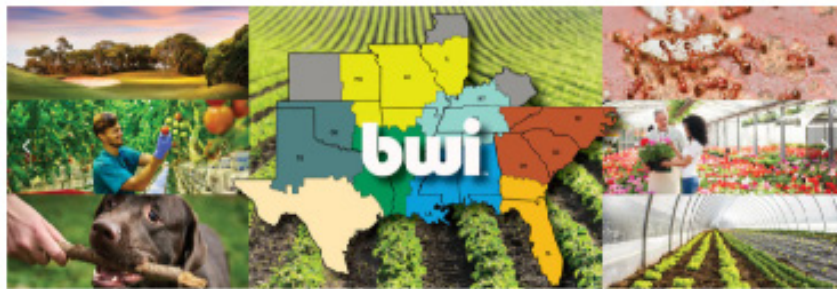
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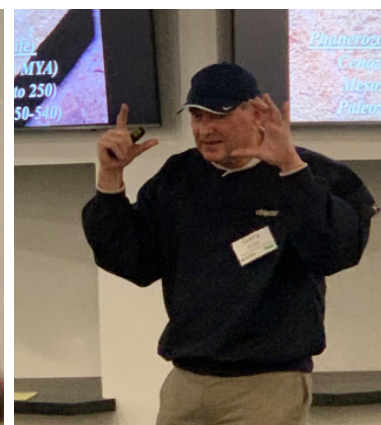
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Education Meeting - February 12



The 2020 NTGCSA education season started in February with a very special event held at the BWI Conference Center in Carrollton. BWI has been a great sponsor and education provider for the association for many years. Thank you to the very good lineup of speakers who provided well needed technical information and some very good practical pointers. Attendees earned GCSAA and TDA CEUs for their attendance. Thanks again to everyone for making this event special!



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A very special night!

2020 Annual Awards Banquet

Gilley's
DALLAS

North Texas GCSA members and their guests traded in the traditional "banquet look" of business formal suits and evening dresses for cowboy boots, jeans, and even some Stetsons for our Annual Awards Banquet held at a very unique venue this year. The NTGCSA board decided to go a little outside the norm and scheduled the event at Gilley's Dallas creating a uniquely Western theme to the event. Reviews were overwhelmingly positive as everyone had a great time with just the right mix of formality and cowboy casual activities.

Don't be surprised if in years to come we are kicking up the dust in a similar venue. This evening is a special night of camaraderie and to recognize North Texas GCSA members for outstanding achievements in their profession, chapter activity, and academic pursuit.

President Bryan Brown did an outstanding job of emceeing the event and handed over the gavel and microphone to 2020 president KD Davis. Bryan has been an outstanding leader of the organization and proved his qualities by doing a great job that night.



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The 2019 Assistant Superintendent of the Year was awarded to Spencer McCasin of the Old American Golf Club. Spencer's supervisor at Old American, Russell Birkhimer spoke glowingly and appreciatively of the great work and accomplishments Spencer has performed at Old American. Spencer and his family have a rich background in golf and we were treated to some great photos of a young Spencer tearing up the links. Many of Spencer's family and friends were in attendance for a special night of recognition.



The 2019 AC and Garry Bearden Superintendent of the Year award was presented to the very deserving Kevin Redburn. Kevin has been a longtime member of the North Texas chapter and an accomplished leader serving as the Association's President in 2016. Kevin was recognized for his great work with the City of Dallas by many of the people he works with in that department. Kevin was joined for this very special evening by his parents, wife and their beautiful children.



Alan Houdek was awarded the chapters most prestigious recognition, the Distinguished Service Award. Alan has been a cornerstone superintendent in Dallas for more than 30 years. Until his recent retirement, he was the Superintendent at Preston Trail and set a standard unsurpassed by any other course in the region. Alan was applauded by many well accomplished former assistants who spoke of his leadership and even poked a little fun at their hero. Alan was joined by his son and was clearly moved by the recognition.



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Carol Cloud
Chapter Executive recognized by
2019 President Bryan Brown

Nomination Letter

Kevin Redburn, City of Dallas

2019 AC and Garry Bearden NTGCSA Superintendent of the Year

With pride and enthusiasm, I nominate our Green Superintendent, Kevin Redburn for the Superintendent of the Year Award. The job of Green Superintendent is often times a thankless one, but this is an opportunity to recognize one of the best in his profession.



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Kevin has transformed Tenison Park during his tenure here and we all are so thankful that he is leading our team. Our golf courses are in the best shape of my tenure here at Tenison Park which goes back 37 years to 1981.

Obviously, I have been through many Superintendents over the years, but Kevin stands out as the very best. Our working relationship is ideal for me in that I can trust Kevin to handle every aspect of the course maintenance. Many golf professionals think they know more than they really do about growing grass, but I have learned to trust the experts.

I admire Kevin's dedication to bring excellence to our courses as well as all of the City of Dallas courses. He is also been given the responsibility to oversee the four other golf courses in the system and I am sure that it is quite a burden. I respect Kevin's leadership abilities and easygoing nature. He leads by example and with a presence that earns respect.

Kevin makes sure his employees know what is required of them, trains them to be efficient, and encourages a team effort. During our weekly staff meetings, whenever we complement his performance or pass along praise from our players, Kevin is quick to give credit to his team and their dedication. This is a trait of a great leader.

We are all proud of Kevin Redburn at Tenison Park. Thank you for considering him for this honor.

Bob Smith
PGA Golf Professional / Director of Golf
Tenison Park

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 CHAPTER CHAMPIONSHIP
MAY 20

Then North Texas GCSA has two great events planned for later this spring. The Board of Directors will continue to monitor the current situation and will communicate their decision regarding these events as soon as possible. The health and safety of our members and their families is our highest priority. We appreciate everyone's understanding.

We do want to extend a great big thank you to our fantastic Sponsors for these events!



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Thank You

When the gavel was passed to new President KD Davis, he thanked Bryan Brown for his leadership and presented to him a commemorative plaque. He announced and recognized the 2020 Board of Directors and talked about high goals and expectations for an eventful year. Without any further ado, KD opened the evening up for a little fun and relaxation which included a casino party along with a band.

All in attendance enjoyed Las Vegas style gambling with lots of fun and plenty of laughs. Following the casino, the ever-popular prize giveaway was held and lucky casino players won all types of goody's for their efforts. Almost everyone went home with a smiling face and a prize in their arms.

If you have never attended a NTGCSA Annual Banquet, you're missing out on a great night of special recognition, an opportunity to learn history of the association, and lots of fun. Please make an effort to join us in future events as this event continues to grow. We promise you'll have a blast!





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\$1000

Brian Eastwood, Cambell Carpenter, Charley Ashworth, Claire Schick, Corynne McCaskill, Gareth Jukes, Kaleigh Harrison, Karsten Harrison, Keelan Lindsey, Rachel Herrera, Sydney Freshwater, Thomas Cooper

\$2500

Turf Scholarship

Payton Hobby

Dear Carol Cloud, and the esteemed members of the North Texas Golf Course Superintendents Association,

I hope you are doing well! I wanted to thank you for the award as a 2019 Legacy Honors Scholarship recipient. My father and grandparents have enjoyed being associated with the NTGCSA for over 20 years, and I cannot thank you enough for supporting my higher education. I am disappointed I will not be able to make it to the Annual Awards Banquet on January 18th, as I flew back to Baltimore on the 6th to continue my work in my research lab. I am working hard to finish my last year at Johns Hopkins strong, and you have been an integral part of allowing me to continue my studies and pursue my passions up here in Maryland.

As a little update on what I have done with the association's assistance during my college career, I have pursued many interests revolving around my majors. I am working to graduate with degrees in Biomedical Engineering and History of Science, Medicine and Technology - two majors that have allowed me to learn Japanese, study MRIs, and work to create more targeted drug delivery in cancer treatment through carbohydrate engineering. Though these seem a little random and diverse, they connect through my majors and prepare me for my master's degree this next year, and my future career as a medical engineer. Concerning my master's degree, I have applied to engineering programs at Johns Hopkins, Rice and MIT; I do not know yet where I will be next year, but I continue to do my best.

Thank you again NTGCSA, from the bottom of my heart, for this award. Have an amazing time at the Banquet, and congratulations to the other recipients.

Happy New Year,
Maggie Jukes

Dear North Texas GCSA Board of Directors,

Thank you so much for the very generous scholarship. This will be extremely helpful as I enter my first year in college. I am very appreciative of the opportunity this gives me to be successful.

I look forward to making my university selection soon.

Thank you so much!

-Corynne McCaskill

Dear Members of the North Texas GCSA,

Thank you very much for awarding me the 2020 Legacy Scholarship. Last year I was able to pay for 2 semesters with the scholarship and will be able to do the same this year. I truly appreciate your consideration and support.

Brian Eastwood

Dear NTGCSA Board,

I am honored to be a recipient of the Legacy Scholarship award and it will help to support me in the continuing of my education.

Thank you so much,
Sydney Freshwater

NTGCSA Executive Board,

Thank you very much for selecting me as one of the 2020 Legacy Scholarship recipients.

My dad is in the chemical and fertilizer industry, which drove my passion to pursue an Agribusiness degree from Texas Tech University.

About six years ago I started to work a few weeks each summer on a row crop farm owned by a family friend in Petersburg, about 40 minutes outside of Lubbock. The wide-open spaces, the need to work with my hands and the slower pace always drew me back. Not only have I learned to drive a tractor, but I have also learned to read soil tests, work on the irrigation systems, hoe, apply chemicals and fertilizers as well as operate various equipment. I love the flat land and the crops they produce.

While not a glamorous life, I love farming and know that Texas Tech is a driving force in helping me pursue my passion. From the moment that my mom and I went for my first official visit I have felt like I have been a part of an amazing community. Without a doubt, I know that this community has my best interests at heart.

AFA Crop Science Institute selected me to attend their agricultural career institute this past summer. This is an honor that I am extremely proud of. I am hoping to learn more about various companies in the agricultural industry. My goal is to graduate with an Agribusiness degree from Texas Tech and run or operate my own farm one day. I know that the industry is tough, but after this past summer we had in west Texas, my boss says that I can make it through anything.

I pride myself in making exceptional grades each semester, but it is often difficult because I must work in order to help my parents pay for college. I am grateful to receive the NTGCSA Legacy Scholarship as it will allow me to focus on my studies by alleviating the pressure of putting in extra hours working on the farm during the school year.

With warmest regards, Koy Keeling

Dear GCSA Board of Directors,

I am writing to express my gratitude to you for making the North Texas GCSA Legacy Scholarship possible. I was happy to learn that I was selected as one of the recipients of your scholarship, and I am deeply appreciative of your support.

The financial assistance you've provided will be a true help to me in paying my educational expenses, which will allow me to concentrate more on my studies. I promise to work very hard in the next few years in furthering my education, and eventually pay it forward one day to help others achieve their goals, just as you have helped me.

Thank you again for your generosity and support.

Thomas Cooper



I would like to extend my sincerest gratitude to everyone in the North Texas Golf Course Superintendents Association. Without you, the assistance that you give to countless students and families would not be possible. I also want to thank you for the scholarship that you have all given to me and my family to further my education at Texas A&M.

Respectfully,
Keelan Lindsey

Nomination Letter

Spencer McCasin, Old American Golf Club

2019 NTGCSA Assistant Superintendent of the Year

Dear Board of Directors,

I would like to nominate Spencer McCasin, Assistant Golf Course Superintendent at Old American Golf Club, for Assistant Superintendent of the Year. Spencer is a very reliable assistant and has a bright future ahead of him.



Spencer has worked with me at Old American Golf Club for two years and has proven to be a quick study. He has learned a tremendous amount about the various products and chemicals used here. In my opinion, product knowledge is key to our business and he has been working closely with our vendors and myself to understand this large piece of being a superintendent.

Now having worked at Old American through two televised LPGA tournaments, Spencer has increased his eye for detail and understanding of what true tournament conditions are. He has shown incredible dedication with all the additional hours and extreme hard work it takes to host a tournament at that level.

Spencer has been a highly motivated assistant in his tenure here. He takes it upon himself to improve our processes while managing the day-to-day operations. He keeps us running in an efficient and organized manner. He was recently motivated to streamline our assignment board and created a task management format that has made a great improvement to our daily work.

Lastly, Spencer is an awesome golfer! As a previous competitive golfer, his knowledge of the game and the rules are impressive. This attribute affords him a great opportunity to communicate and play golf with a wide selection of members and learn what their expectations are. This is helpful for our maintenance team to exceed turf expectations.

All in all, Spencer is a hard worker, a great assistant, and is a very deserving of this acknowledgement by his peers.

Thank you,

Russell Berkheimer
Director of Agronomy
Old American Golf Club



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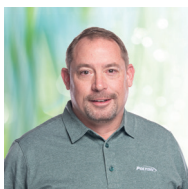
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North Texas Chapter
GCSAA

1960 - 2020

The North Texas GCSA is excited to recognize our 60th year anniversary!

We are working on assembling as much historical information, documents or any other items that will help the chapter document our history.

If you are a new or long time member, we need your help! If you have any suggestions or items you would like to donate to the chapter, please contact the NTGCSA office at ntgcsa@gmail.com.

Our initial effort has been to assemble an accurate list of past Presidents of the Association. Please review the list on the

following page and let us know if you have any information that might fill in some of the missing pieces of the puzzle.

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At an older club? Scour those old drawers or file cabinets to see what you might find. Thank you in advance to everyone for your help and support of this project!

Year	President
1984	John Anderson
1985	John Anderson
1986	Joe McMahon
1987	
1988	
1989	
1990	Ken Small
1991	
1992	
1993	Tom Werner
1994	Tom Diamond
1995	Glenn Moore
1996	Rusty Walker
1997	Walt Wilkinson
1998	Keith Ihms
1999	Brian Cloud
2000	Scott Alford
2001	Jim Broughton
2002	Charlie Trammell
2003	Willie Wallace
2004	Stephen Best
2005	Richard Pantasek
2006	Tim Muench
2007	Jay Sline
2008	Joe Livingston
2009	Chuck McCaskill
2010	Mark Cleburn
2011	Michael Underwood
2012	Andy Morrisette
2013	Brannon Goodrich
2014	Aaron Schick
2015	Kevin Carpenter
2016	Kevin Redburn
2017	Mike Epps
2018	Kurt Phillips
2019	Bryan Brown
2020	KD Davis

June 14, 1960

North Texas Golf Course Supts. Assoc.
Dallas-Ft. Worth, Texas

Gentlemen:

You will find enclosed Rules and By-Laws for our Association written and approved by the by-law committee consisting of Otis Owens, M. H. Veal, Jr., John Henry, Joe Cano, Ross Bush and Carroll Kiser.

Much thought has been given to the preparation of these by-laws so read them carefully and be prepared to vote for or against their acceptance at the next meeting.

The next meeting, which will be our most important, will be held on Tuesday night, June 21, 1960. The meeting place will be Amon Carter Field, Highway 183, Room 205, at 7:30 p.m. There will be no meal served. Plan to attend now and call your neighboring superintendent to remind him to attend also.

This organization will help all of us become better superintendents. Please give it your wholehearted support.

Sincerely,

Carroll F. Kiser
Carroll F. Kiser
Acting Secretary



We also have the following list of individuals who we believe served as President of the NTGCSA at some point. We are just unsure of the year: Mike Allen, Pat Jones, Garry Bearden, Quinton Johnson, Terry Jungman, Clyde Nettles, Joe Cano, Roger Goettsch, Howard Fisher, Melvin Williams

Dusty Daniel

806-787-2283

DustyDaniel@bwicompanies.com

Colby Johnson

972-207-2981

ColbyJohnson@bwicompanies.com

Kolby Keeling

214-546-6858

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Congratulations!

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Our property is a proud Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary. We completed re-certification requirements in 2018 and feature environmental excellence throughout our property. We have 35 nest boxes (Blue Bird, Screech Owl, and Bat Boxes), as well as bird baths, feeders (seed, suet, and nectar), pollinator gardens, and xeriscapes that are beautiful and conserve water. In 2019, we participated in Audubon International's BioBlitz documenting over 129 separate species that call our property home.



If you have spent any time in Texas during the summer you know that heat can be a real challenge to all plants. Here on the rooftop patio, we maintain plantings that routinely survive temperatures over 100 degrees (see the thermometer). This challenge is magnified by the sheer number of pots that we maintain (321 exterior pots) around the property. Our heat strategies include: heat tolerant plant selection, frequent moisture management, and high quality potting mixes with wetting agents.

Here a crew member washes a mower after use taking advantage of our state of the art closed-loop Carbtrol wash pad system. Clippings and water go into the system, solids are separated, enzymes do their work and the water recycles ensuring no pollutants find their way into the water shed. This is a key addition to our infrastructure and helped us achieve certified Groundwater Guardian Green Site Status. A useful touch of greenery is added in at the end of the filtration system containing organically grown peppers and basil, a staff favorite.



A Mallard duck hen and her three ducklings make their home at the Four Seasons Resort and Club Dallas at Las Colinas. This photo is of the amazing water feature in front of the private villas at the heart of the property, and features Tifway 419 Bermuda lawns, foundation shrubs of Spirea (Spirea japonica) and Boxwood that are overlooked by Red Crape Myrtles in full bloom. A vibrant splash of seasonal color from Vinca Liriope, and Purple Fountain Grass cover the waterfall island. The entire property is an amazing world class green space; the golf courses were 2017 PGMS Green Star Grand Award winners and were also the Overall winners of the Environmental Leaders in Golf contest sponsored by Golf Digest and the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America.





NATIONAL GOLF DAY

We Are Golf, a coalition of the game's leading associations and industry partners including GCSAA, hosts the annual National Golf Day event in Washington, D.C.

ADVOCACY



National Golf Day celebrates the game's nearly \$84 billion economy, nearly \$4 billion annual charitable impact and many environmental and fitness benefits. Industry leaders meet with Members of Congress, the Executive Branch and federal agencies to discuss golf's 15,000-plus diverse businesses, 2 million jobs impacted, tax revenue creation and tourism value.

IMPORTANT! 2020 National Golf Day Postponed

In response to the recommendation of the Centers for Disease Control that organizers

cancel or postpone in-person events of 50 people or more scheduled during the next eight weeks throughout the U.S., National Golf Day, scheduled for May 4-6 in Washington, D.C., has been postponed.



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Darryl Walker
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Luke Benedict
North Texas
580.574.0593

Due to the rapidly evolving nature of decisions by public health agencies, federal and state governments, a decision on whether to reschedule NGD will be made at a later date. We will continue to closely monitor the impacts of the coronavirus, and will be in contact with a decision on NGD 2020 as circumstances evolve in the coming days and weeks.

For questions or more information, contact Diana DeWald, government affairs administrative coordinator at 800-472-7878, ext. 3675



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