

NTGCSA Awards Banquet

The 2023 Annual Awards banquet was held on January 7, 2023 at Dallas Country Club. Thank you to Curt Franklin and Kirt Phillips for all of their help in securing the location and hosting this special event!

The NTGCSA board of directors awarded 19 different recipients more than \$30,000 in scholarships. The association and board also recognized Ron Readel from Sherrill Park Golf Course as the Assistant Superintendent of the Year, Mark Claburn from Tierra Verde Golf Club as the Superintendent of the Year, and Duane Janssen from Ridglea Country Club and John Colligan with Colligan Golf Design as the Distinguished Award Winners. Congratulations to all of those recognized!



Congratulations to this year's Legacy Scholarship Award winners

\$2,000

Jacob Claburn (Mark Claburn)
 Ashley Doolittle (Brent Doolittle)
 Chloe Neely (Kevin Carpenter)
 Cal Phillips (Kirt Phillips)
 Katie Stine (Jay Stine)
 Kristen Wallace (Willie Wallace)

\$1500

Griffin Carpenter (Kevin Carpenter)
 Kathleen Claburn (Mark Claburn)
 Tommy Cooper (Pat Cooper)
 Kade Keeling (Kolby Keeling)
 Emily Martinez (Ed Martinez)
 Corynne McCaskill (Chuck McCaskill)
 Carter Stine (Jay Stine)

\$1000

Kyle Gilmore (Dave Gilmore)
 Kobe Hodges (Ed Martinez)
 Laney Muench (Tim Muench)
 Mason Newkirk (Jim Newkirk)

Congratulations to this year's Turf Scholarship Award winners

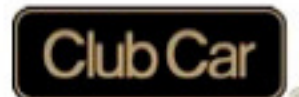
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Mark Claburn

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Grant Jones

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Trevor Ogden

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Upcoming Events

Stephen Best Memorial Tournament

May 22, 2023

Lantana Golf Club

Chapter Championship

June 6, 2023

Ridglea Country Club

Family Social

July 22, 2023

Globe Life Field

August Scramble

August 21, 2023

Coyote Ridge Golf Club

Other Events and Dates to be announced soon!

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President's Message

I am truly honored and humbled to have the opportunity to serve as the 2023 Board President of the North Texas Golf Course Superintendent's Association. I have been working in this industry for 22 years and have been the Superintendent at Dallas National for 9 years now. Personally, I am so grateful to have this group of professionals to lean on for guidance and support. Countless have provided me with advice over the years as I experienced some things for the first time -- construction, dead greens, and misapplications, just to name a few! I also feel incredibly fortunate to have had this group as we collectively experienced difficulties like ice storms, flooding, extreme heat, drought, and a pandemic. Former President Anthony Williams said it best, "we are all in this together".



Over the past few years, the Board's motto was let's take the association from good to great. This year, the current Board and I will continue to build with this anthem in mind in an effort to further elevate, strengthen and grow our great association. We have a great schedule of events that we are currently finalizing. We have even incorporated a couple of shop tours this year. This has already proven to be a great addition to our schedule providing our members a great opportunity to see other operations and network with like minds.

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Curt Franklin (DFW)
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Our goal is to sell out all our events and you are the only way that goal will become a reality. We also aim to get current members further invested. I encourage each and every one of you to attend our events, catch up with fellow superintendents, play some golf, and have fun!

I want to thank all of our sponsors and our members for their commitment to our association. We all want our courses to be great, but this group's further growth will be found in our unity. Our strength will come as we lean on each other not only in difficult times, but in good times for education, participation, and camaraderie.

I look forward to serving,
Neil Packard
NTGCSA President
Dallas National Golf Club

Dusty Daniel

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NTGCSA Awards Banquet



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NTGCSA Awards Banquet



Congratulations to Joe Livingston, Director of Golf Course Management at Rivercrest Country Club and NTGCSA member, on receiving the Golf Course Superintendent Award from the North Texas PGA Section at their Annual Awards Banquet held at Northwood Club in February.



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Legacy Spotlight - Kade Keeling

1. Who is the NTGCSA member that you are a Legacy of?

Kolby Keeling

2. What high school did you attend, and where are you currently attending college?

I attended Grapevine High School and am currently a student at Texas Tech University.

3. What is your Major?

I am pursuing a General Business, B.B.A.: Construction Management Concentration.

4. What are your plans for after College?

I have currently completed two internships on the residential side of the industry and plan on having an internship this summer on the commercial side. After I graduate college I plan on coming out of school and working for a construction company to gain the most amount of knowledge that I can with the hopes of starting my own business one day!

Legacy Spotlight - Kristen Wallace

1. Who is the NTGCSA member that you are a Legacy of?

Willie Wallace

2. What high school did you attend, and where are you currently attending college?

I attended Timber Creek High School and am currently a student at Kansas State University.

3. What is your Major?

I am a Marketing major (minor in management).

4. What are your plans for after College?

I plan to work my way up to become a marketing manager at a large corporation that gives back to their local community.



Legacy Spotlight - Laney Muench



1. Who is the NTGCSA member that you are a Legacy of?

Tim Muench

2. What high school did you attend, and where are you currently attending college?

Formerly attended Memorial High School in Frisco and currently attending Texas A&M University.

3. What is your Major?

Marketing in the Mays Business School.

4. What are your plans for after College?

I hope to work in the sports & event planning industry.

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Member Spotlight - NTGCSA Distinguished Award Winner

Ridglea Country Club Superintendent - Duane Janssen

1. How did you get into the business?

I'm pretty fortunate to have grown up in the business. My father was a Golf Course Superintendent who followed in the footsteps of my grandfather, who also was a Golf Course Superintendent. As a kid, I grew up playing golf and watching and helping my dad out on the course starting at a young age. I consider myself blessed because I knew exactly what I wanted to do when I grew up.

2. Where did you grow up?

I was born in Schuyler, Nebraska. We moved to Kansas a few years later for my dad to build a golf course. When I was 11, my family moved to the GREAT state of Texas where I graduated from Permian High School. GO MOJO! From there, I studied at Western Texas College, earned my degree, and moved to Fort Worth to work at Ridglea Country Club. I've been at Ridglea for 30 years and am still excited to come to work every day.

3. Tell me about Ridglea Country Club.

Ridglea has been around since 1954. It's a private equity club with over 1,600 members. Ridglea is unique because it offers two golf courses: The North Course and South Course. Each course has its own clubhouse, an 18-hole golf course, fitness, and dining experiences. The North course, however, has additional amenities, such as aquatics, racquets, state-licensed childcare, and a barbershop. Ridglea was ahead of its time in 1954, and still today provides a one-stop-shop for its members.

Golf at the North Course provides a rolling terrain with over 100 feet of elevational changes. The South Course is considerably longer due to the surrounding creeks around the west fork of the Trinity River and Mary's Creek. It provides added length, deep roughs, and a championship design for our heavy hitters. With the large creeks and length, this course plays to a higher course rating. Both courses grass feature TifEagle Bermuda on the greens and 419 on its fairways and roughs.

One of the ways I describe Ridglea is that the property was picked to make a great golf course rather than taking any property and making a golf course. Ridglea also has one of the largest single-story clubhouses and was known for being the largest single-story clubhouse in the world in 1954.

4. What has been the toughest obstacle to overcome in your career?

One of the most challenging obstacles in my career was becoming certified as a golf course superintendent. The certification process was long and tedious but overall, it made me a stronger superintendent, broadened my knowledge, and advanced my career.

5. What is one thing readers don't know about you, that they might be interested to learn?

I enjoy tinkering with classic cars. Most weekends, you can find me at some type of racing event. If it is loud and fast, I'm in! I also love to go pheasant hunting. I have an old single shot passed down from my grandfather that's a true bird blaster!



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Member Spotlight - NTGCSA Superintendent of the Year Award Winner Tierra Verde Superintendent - Mark Claburn

1. How did you get into the business?

I have a golf obsessed family and grew up at west Texas courses while we played on the “beer and BBQ circuit” in the Permian Basin. I shagged balls on the range at my local course when Mike Plummer was superintendent there before his Lakewood days, and was introduced to golf maintenance at San Angelo Country Club under Jim Pomroy and Dale Miller when my brother worked for them while playing college golf.

While I was in school at Texas Tech, a few of the guys that had worked at San Angelo were going to school at Western Texas College and convinced me to go there and start a career in golf course construction. I never ended up in construction but took a job in Dallas doing corporate landscaping to be with Sarah (my wife of 25 years). I was taking care of corporate campuses like Frito Lay, JC Penney, Motorola and American Airlines. The company I was working for was bought out and I decided to go back to golf getting a job at Riverside as an irrigation tech. I was fortunate to quickly advance up to Superintendent.

2. Where did you grow up?

I grew up in Monahans, Texas about 40 miles west of Midland-Odessa in the center of the Permian Basin. It was definitely an oil town, but golf is a major part of the social structure.

3. Tell me about Tierra Verde.

Tierra Verde is a unique property. It opened in 1998 when I was working at Riverside. I played it a few times since it was close, and fell in love with the place. The course is on 270 acres, but less than 100 are maintained and the rest are wildlife corridors. Tierra Verde was always planned to be an Audubon Signature course. Audubon International and Texas Parks and Wildlife were involved from the very beginning with the Natural Resource Management Plan and also provided input into the drainage and watershed protection on the property. Tierra Verde was the first Audubon Signature course in Texas and the first municipal property in the world to achieve Signature status. We do tours throughout the year as part of our outreach for Audubon to school environmental science groups and teachers getting CEU's as well as being part of the education for the Texas Master Naturalist program for a few of the area TP&W



Continued on page 20



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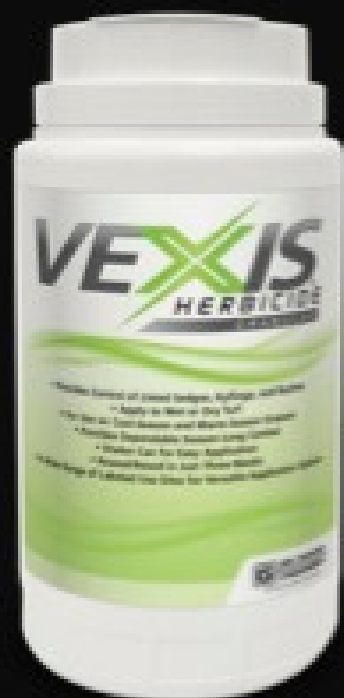
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To help our association continue moving from good to great, we need help from all members to grow our association and to help it be successful. To volunteer to serve as a meeting host, to author a newsletter article or to serve on one of our committees, reach out to Shannon at ntgcsa@gmail.com.

Available committee options are listed below:

- Annual Awards Banquet Committee
- Annual Meeting Committee
- Assistant Superintendent and EM Committee
- Awards and Recognition Committee
- Chapter Delegates Committee
- Education Committee
- Finance Committee
- Golf & Events Outings Committee
- Government Relations & Advocacy Committee
- Lone Star GCSA Committee
- Past President's Long Range Planning Committee
- Scholarship Committee

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Member Spotlight Continued from page 13

Master Naturalist chapters. We have to do an extensive annual report for Audubon International annually and they come out and review the property every other year. It was designed by Gary Stephenson with Graham and Panks and it really doesn't have any bad holes. Gary designed in some great risk reward holes and interesting optical illusions to move shots into desired areas.

4. What unique challenges do you face managing multiple golf courses throughout the City of Arlington?

I think the biggest challenge is dealing with the City of Arlington itself; we are in an enterprise fund within the city, meaning we are out of the general fund. We have to generate all of our revenue for everything from our patrons, including buying the land and construction for Tierra Verde when it was built.

The good news is that Arlington has really embraced its entertainment district around the stadiums and amusement parks and golf has been part of that conversation. I am fortunate to have really capable guys in Brick Scott at Texas Rangers and Meadowbrook Park and Justin Allen at Lake Arlington; as well as my assistant at Tierra Verde, David Rainey.

7. If you could play a round of golf with any PGA professional past or present, who would you play with?

My brothers would kill me for not saying Jack Nicklaus, but I would pick John Daly. He seems to have the most fun on the course!

8. What is one thing readers don't know about you, that they might be interested to learn?

I played Polo on the Texas Tech Polo Team. It was a lot of fun and allowed me to ride for hours every day.



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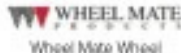
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Member Spotlight - NTGCSA Assistant SOY Award Winner Sherrill Park Golf Course - Ron Readel

1. How did you get into the business?

I was contacted by a previous boss who worked at Sherrill Park. My previous experience was in all aspects of construction.

2. Tell me about Sherrill Park.

Sherrill Park is celebrating it's 50-year anniversary this year. It includes two 18-hole courses and has been ranked in the top four Texas golf courses.

4. What teams do you root for?

Being from Illinois, I do root for the Bears, though I'm also a Cowboys fan.

5. What has been the toughest obstacle to overcome in your career?

Keeping up with the latest and greatest turf applications, and trying to decide whether or not they solve a problem we're experiencing or if they are they more of a hinderance to what we are trying to do.

6. If you could play a round of golf with any PGA professional past or present, who would you want to play with?

Rodney Dangerfield. Just kidding, John Daley, he seems like a funny guy and someone I would want to party with since I can't party with Rodney.

7. What is one thing readers don't know about you, that they might be interested to learn?

I was a volunteer firefighter in my past years.

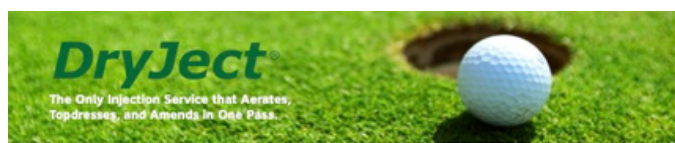


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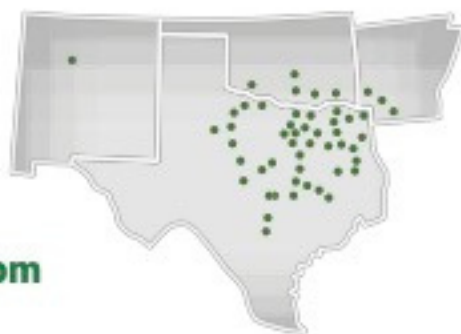


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GCSAA Updates

Did you know that the vast majority of proceeds raised through the Rounds 4 Research auction go back to the local chapter donating rounds? This allows the NTGCSA to direct the proceeds to specific projects that will have the most significant impact in our local area.

Over the last several years, we have donated to research projects at both Texas Tech and the University of Arkansas. The proceeds from Rounds 4 Research help provide the funds to support these projects.

Did you also know that you can set black out dates and specifications for the rounds you are donating?

This year's auction is now LIVE! Support our chapter and donate a round today!

Visit www.rounds4research.com for more info!



Environmental Leaders in Golf Awards

Presented by GCSAA and Golf Digest in partnership with Syngenta, the Environmental Leaders in Golf Awards recognize golf course superintendents and golf courses around the world for their commitment to environmental stewardship. The ELGAs are based on the environmental best management practices that GCSAA recommends all courses utilize.

There are four ELGAs available:

- Natural Resource Conservation Award
- Healthy Land Stewardship Award
- Communications and Outreach Award
- Innovative Conservation Award

There will be one winner and two runners-up recognized for each award. GCSAA members may apply to one, two, three or all four awards in a single year. However, an individual can only win one award per year. All applicants will be notified by December whether or not they have been selected as a winner. Winners will be recognized at the GCSAA Conference and Trade Show.

<https://www.gcsaa.org/about-gcsaa/awards/environmental-leaders-in-golf-awards>

Syngenta Business Institute

Golf course superintendents can now apply online for the 2023 Syngenta Business InstituteSM (SBI) professional development program, which will be in-person at the Graylyn International Conference Center in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, Dec. 5-8. Golf course superintendents have until Monday, Aug. 21, to apply online. <https://www.greencastonline.com/sbi/>

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GCSAA Updates Continued

Spring Into Savings

Spring is a great time to join GCSAA! For the month of April, you can join GCSAA at 50% off! You'll also get a complimentary Full Pack registration to the 2024 GCSAA Conference and Trade Show in Phoenix!

This offer is available for NEW GCSAA members only in the MONTH OF APRIL! Use code: SPRING2023 to join.



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APPLIES TO NEW MEMBERSHIP ONLY.
CANNOT BE A MEMBER WITHIN THE LAST 3 YEARS.

NTGCSA Updates

NTGCSA Memberships run on the calendar year and expired on December 31, 2022 - regardless of when you signed up and paid your dues. To renew your membership for 2023, be sure to visit our Web site at www.ntgcsa.org.

Did you know that we've added a benefit for those clubs purchasing multiple Emerald memberships?

All memberships can be renewed and paid for directly on our Web site. If you prefer an invoice, be sure to contact Shannon at ntgcsa@gmail.com.

NTGCSA Sponsorships also run on the calendar year and expired on December 31, 2022. To view available sponsorship opportunities, to become a new sponsor, or to renew your sponsorship for 2023, visit www.ntgcsa.org.

Sponsorship can be renewed and paid for directly on our Web site. If you prefer an invoice or want more information on opportunities available, please contact Shannon at ntgcsa@gmail.com.



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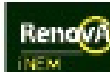
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