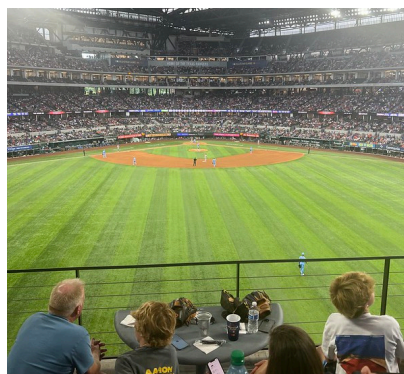
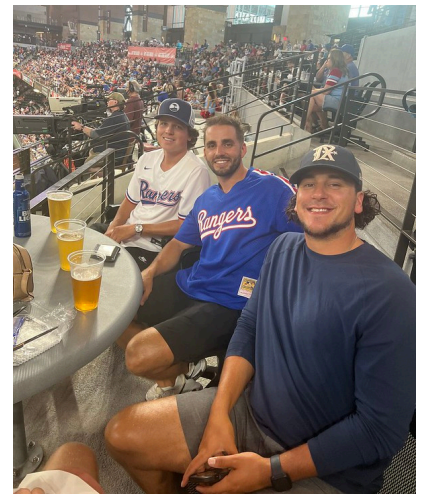
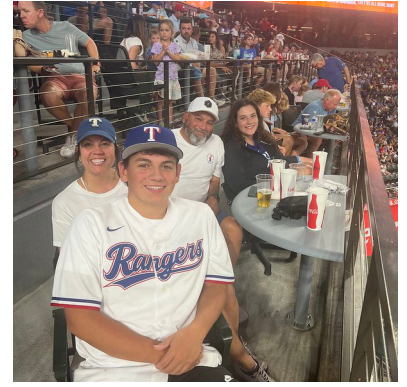


2024 NTGCSA Family Social

Thank you to all that joined us for the 2024 Family Social in July at Globe Life Field! We enjoyed food, fellowship and cheering on the Texas Rangers to a victory over the Baltimore Orioles. Thank you to platinum sponsor Professional Turf Products for sponsoring a great day! We were so thankful to have so many members in attendance!



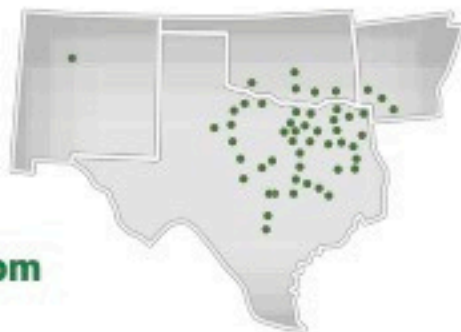


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2560 King Arthur Blvd., Suite 124-115
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January 11, 2025

Royal Oaks Country Club

EM Meeting and Shop Tour

February 12, 2025

Trinity Forest Golf Club

Other Events and Dates to be announced soon!





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President's Message

As you are all aware, our Chapter President Mike Upchurch unexpectedly passed away en route to the GCSAA Chapter Delegates meeting in Lawrence, KS. We are including his final President's Message below. This was written just prior to his passing for our Fall Newsletter. His obituary is also included below.

Temperatures are dropping, more golfers are finding the course and playing later in the day, kids are back in school, and football has returned to weekend TV; it must be close to fall. I hope all is well with each of you and that your courses are coming along as expected. All of your summer projects should be in the completion stage and hopefully grow in is going well.



We had a great turn out for the family social and for the summer scramble. I want to thank all of the sponsors who help make these events possible, as well as all of the superintendents hosting events at your courses this year. Your continuing contributions are what drive our chapter to it's continued success.

We recently returned to Scottish Rite Hospital for Children for our fall education and CEU's. We have had a long standing partnership with Scottish Rite, but due to Covid restrictions have not been able to hold events at their facility over the past several years. During lunch we presented a \$5,000 donation to the facility, bringing our total donations over the last several years to over \$100,000! If you have never attended this event, be sure to make an effort next year! It is a wonderful facility helping a signifiant amount of children with their care and knowledge.

Mike Upchurch
Longview Country Club

Michael (Mike) Lynn Upchurch, 63, of Marshall, Texas, passed away on October 28, 2024. Mike was a resident of Marshall for 20 years and worked in the golf industry as both a golf course superintendent and consultant for most of his life, serving as long-time member of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America. Mike was born in Odessa, Texas and attended Texas Tech University. He also proudly served his country in the United States Army for four years. Mike was caring husband, father, coworker and friend who loved his family, golf and music...always living life to the fullest.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Martha Ann Upchurch.

He is survived by his wife, Yondi Upchurch; son, Josh Upchurch; father, Wamon Upchurch; brother, Chris Upchurch and wife, Dianne; sister, Ann Shackelford and husband, Roy; brother-in-law, Michael Brittain and wife, Rhonda; nieces, Devon Shackelford, Karissa Castillo, Audrey Brittain, Mary Brittain and Emily Brittain and nephews, Dalton Shackelford and Daniel Castillo along with other family and friends.

In lieu of flowers the family requests that donations be made in his honor to St. Jude's Children's Hospital or Scottish Rite.

Services were held at 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, November 5, 2024, in the Chapel of Downs Funeral Home in Marshall, Texas.

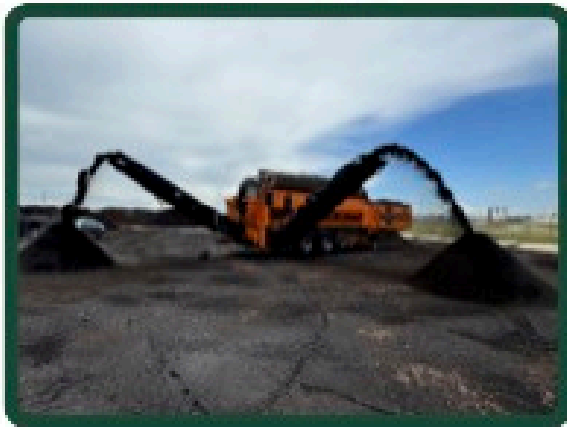


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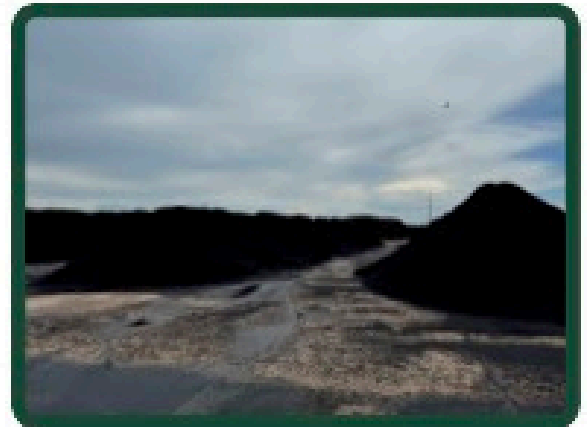


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2024 Summer Scramble Recap

Thank you to all of the members that joined us for this year's 2024 Summer Scramble at Brookhaven Country Club. A morning shotgun made the summer heat a little more bearable!

Congratulations to the team of Jeff Garza, Shane Seaborn, Todd Gilmour and Danny Walton on their first place finish.

Thank you to Aaron Seaman and all of the staff at Brookhaven for hosting us for this year's event. Thank you also to Platinum Sponsor Longhorn for continuing to support the NTGCSA and partnering with us on this event. We are grateful for your continued support!



2024 Education at Scottish Rite

We were thrilled to be able to return to the Scottish Rite for Children Hospital in Dallas for our Annual Fall Education this past September.

Scottish Rite has been a long-time partner of the North Texas GCSA, but due to Covid restrictions we had not hosted our annual education at their facilities since 2019.

During our lunch break, we presented hospital staff members with a \$5,000 donation check, bringing the all-time funds contributed by the association to over \$100,000! We hope to continue this partnership for years to come!



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GCSAA announces 2024 Environmental Leaders in Golf Award Recipients

Four golf course superintendents have been selected as recipients of the 2024 Environmental Leaders in Golf Awards (ELGA) by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA). The annual awards are presented by GCSAA and Golf Digest in partnership with Syngenta. Eight runners-up also received recognition for their environmental efforts.

The awards have recognized superintendents and golf courses around the world for their commitment to environmental stewardship since 1993. In 2018 the ELGAs were updated to recognize more superintendents in more focused areas of environmental sustainability. Instead of offering national awards based on facility type, the current version of the ELGAs is based on environmental best management practices and honor specific areas of focus.

- The Communications and Outreach Award recognizes effective communication of conservation strategies with facility employees, golfers and other members of the community.
- The Healthy Land Stewardship Award recognizes effective strategies for efficient use of pesticides and nutrients, as well as pollution prevention.
- The Innovative Conservation Award recognizes unique and innovative strategies for conservation.
- The Natural Resource Conservation Award recognizes effective strategies for water conservation, energy conservation and sound wildlife management.

The Communications and Outreach Award was presented to North Texas GCSA's own - Mark Claburn with Tierra Verde Golf Club in Arlington, Texas. Mark is a 25-year GCSAA member and has been the superintendent at Tierra Verde Golf Club since 2005. This is Claburn's second ELGA recognition as he was tabbed as the ELGA Public Golf Course and Overall Winner in 2004.

Tierra Verde was the first golf course in Texas and the first municipal golf course in the world to be certified as an Audubon Signature Sanctuary. The public golf course encompasses 263 total acres with 90 acres of managed turf.



Congratulations Mark! The First Runner-up for this award was Carl Thompson, CGCS, Columbia Point Golf Course, Richland, Wash. The Second Runner-up was Eric Verellen, Snoqualmie Falls Golf Course, Fall City, Wash.

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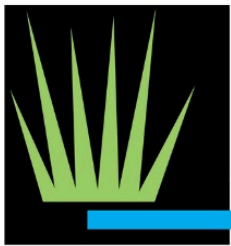


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SCAN ME!

NTGCSA BOD Elections Results

Thank you to all that attended our Annual Meeting and Elections at Grapevine Country Club in November. Thanks to Merlin Tielkemeier and the entire staff at Grapevine Golf Course for hosting us for the third straight year! Thank you also to Turf Materials for sponsoring a great day!

Congratulations to proximity winners Zach Barber, Holden Bradbury, Raul Cardenas and Cody Crowther. Congratulations to our first place finishers Tony Bevolo and Austin Brown and to second place finishers Coby Morrow and Chris Hendrickson.

Congratulations to the following on their election to the NTGCSA Board of Directors:

President

Coby Morrow, Northwood Club

Vice President

Grant Jones, Sherrill Park Golf Course

Secretary/Treasurer

Cody Crowther (Appointed by President)

Superintendent Directors

Jon Bradham (Appointed), Pecan Hollow

Grant Meredith, Luna Vista Golf Course

Paul Watkins, River Crest Country Club

Neil Packard, Dallas National (1-year term)

Affiliate Director

Mike Epps, Turf and Soil Management

Past President, Mark Claburn, Tierra Verde Golf Club

Mike Upchurch In Memoriam



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Member Spotlight - 2024 LIV Team Championship Course Host Tanner Westbrook, Maridoe Golf Club

Maridoe Golf Club hosted the first LIV event in North Texas this past September. Below is an interview with the Director of Agronomy, and NTGCSA member, Tanner Westbrook.

Q. Tell me about Maridoe.

A. Maridoe is an 8,000 yard beast of a golf course. It was designed by Steve Smyers and opened in 2018 as a complete remodel of the old Columbian Club that previously sat on this property. We have a 35-acre lake in the middle of the property, and they built the course around it to give the property an apathetic effect with the course circling the lake. The course is made extra tricky by the demanding tee shots and long native grasses that line the rough line. We have Champion Bermuda greens, Northbridge tees and fairways, buffalo grass rough, and a mix of native grasses that make up the long grasses.

Q. Tell me about the challenges you faced in preparing to host the first LIV event in North Texas.

A. LIV requested several golf course changes two months before the tournament, several tee boxes added and, a few to be leveled, and two fairway bunkers to be removed and replaced with a water feature put into their place. We installed and replaced 150,000 square feet of cart path from July 26th to August 30th. Our spillway gave way in the spring, and we lost 90% of our water in the lake. Coming into the tournament, my team was hand watering only, heavily restricting water usage to manage water left in the lake. From the start of August, we laid about 50 truckloads of sod on cart path edges, newly worked areas for course changes, and the spillway and lake edges that were rebuilt and replaced. Getting all this work done while keeping the golf course in championship condition was quite challenging.

Q. What is the most rewarding part of your job?

A. I really enjoy seeing the response I get out of the turf from the imputes we put into it. Whether cultural practices or fertilizer applications, I love seeing the progress to improve the property.

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

A. The bad freeze we had back in 2020. I was a first-year superintendent with a USGA event in April and a college tournament that was televised on a golf channel in September. We lost what seemed to be half of our fairways in the freeze. We closed the course in July, and my team cut our own sprigs and re-planted and grew in all the damaged areas to be ready for September.

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

A. Tiger Woods

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

A. Growing up, I wanted to be a professional golfer. I gave it a run, but an injury to my ribs took me out of competitive golf for years.

Dusty Daniel

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Colby Johnson

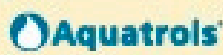
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Sponsorship Renewal

2025 Sponsorship Opportunities are Open!

All opportunities provide for priceless networking and an advertising reach to 300 superintendent members in the DFW area. You can view and commit to sponsor on our Web site at www.ntgcsa.org/2025_sponsorship_opportunities.

An email with a google form will be sent in mid-January for Platinum sponsors to select which meeting they would like to sponsor for 2025. You must commit to sponsoring before that time to be on the list to select your meeting.

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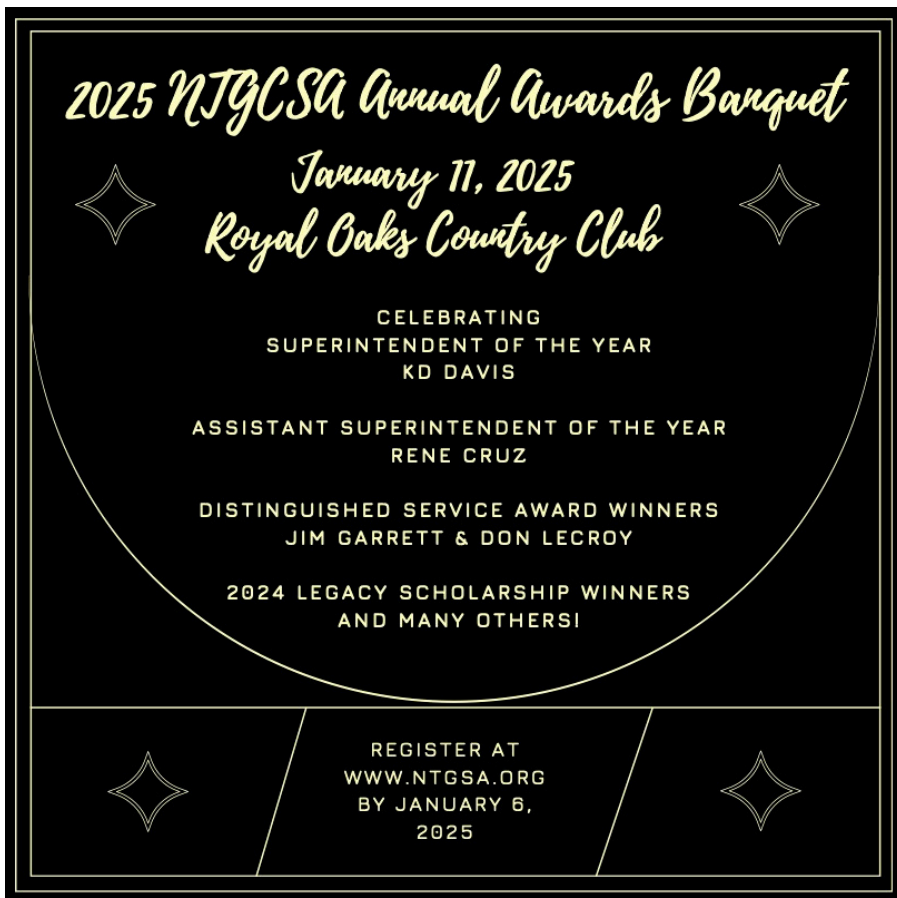
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2024 NTGCSA Scholarships

Congratulations to the following students on receiving 2024 NTGCSA Legacy Scholarship Awards

Michael Dattalo - *Todd Dattalo, Cowboys Golf Club*
Keaton Davis - *KD Davis, Royal Oaks Country Club*
Emma Gilmore - *Dave Gilmore, Turf Care of Texas*
Kyle Gilmore - *Dave Gilmore, Turf Care of Texas*
Rachel Herrera - *Mark Herrera, Pecan Hollow Golf Course*
Jack Jones - *Michael Underwood, Hunter Industries*
Aidan Lindsey - *Kevin Lindsay, Hawks Creek Golf Club*
Brooke Livingston - *Joe Livingston, River Crest Country Club*
Brennan McDaniel McCaskill - *Chuck McCaskill, HYDROGRO, LLC*
Corynne McCaskill - *Chuck McCaskill, HYDROGRO, LLC*
Chloe Neely - *Kevin Carpenter, Northwood Club*
Oliver Neely - *Kevin Carpenter, Northwood Club*
Cal Phillips - *Kirt Phillips, Dallas Country Club*
Emma Scott - *Husqvarna*
Jake Snodgrass - *Bradley Snodgrass, Simplot*
McKenzie Thummel - *Chad Thummel, The Golf Club at Twin Creeks*
Kristen Wallace - *Willie Wallace, Denton Country Club*
Lauren Wallace - *Willie Wallace, Denton Country Club*

2024 Award Nominations



2025 NTGCSA Annual Awards Banquet
January 11, 2025
Royal Oaks Country Club

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We hope you'll make plans to join us to celebrate all of this year's scholarship and award recipients at Royal Oaks Country Club on January 11. Registration is now open on our Web site.

Congratulations to all of this year's Superintendent of the year finalists and nominees! This year's impressive list of nominees included:

Jon Bradham, Pecan Hollow
Ryan Coffman, Wildhorse at Robson Ranch
KD Davis, Royal Oaks CC
Steve Gilley, Canyon Creek CC
Jim Osborne
Neil Packard, Dallas National
Chris Rick, Preston Trail
Andy Wright, Prestonwood Creek

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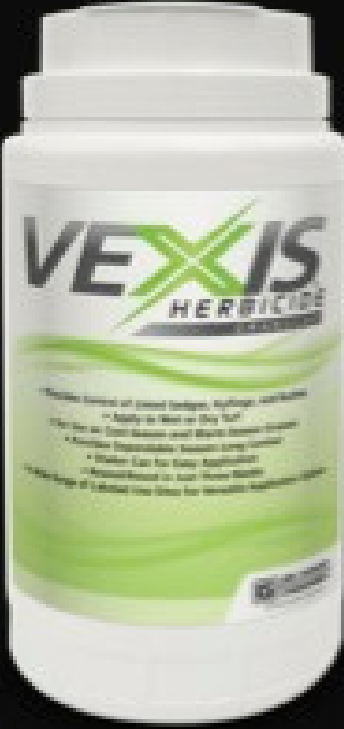
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Membership Renewals

NTGCSA Memberships run on the calendar year and expired on December 31, 2024 - regardless of when you signed up and paid your dues.

Thank you to all of you that have already renewed!

All memberships for 2025 can be renewed and paid for directly on our Web site at www.ntgcsa.com. If you have trouble with your log-in, or prefer an invoice, be sure to contact Shannon at: ntgcsa@gmail.com.

Paid Membership Options

Superintendent/Affiliate Membership - \$120

Class C Superintendent Membership - \$90

EM Membership - \$60

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Your Success is our Priority

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- Chemistry testing of Soil & Water, complete with 43 data point Analysis, to better understand how soils are affected by current environmental factors.
- Physical Property testing (ISTRC) to help quantify cultural programs.
- Utilizing new and current technologies to significantly lower inputs and produce more predictable results.

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FIT FOR ANY JOB.

The Cushman® Hauler® PRO features the power and reliability to tackle your workday. Our ELITE Lithium drivetrain, powered by Samsung SDI technology, features a compact, lightweight battery allowing you to worry less about your turf and more about the work ahead. With customizable accessories such as an electric bed lift, long handled tool rack and many more, you can outfit your vehicle to fit the needs of your operation.

Learn more.



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For more information contact:

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GAIL'S FLAGS

ESTABLISHED 1976



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Volunteers Needed!

We need more members to get involved with the NTGCSA! We have several committees for members to serve on. These include:

- Annual Awards Banquet Committee
- Annual Meeting Committee
- Assistant Superintendent & EM Committee
- Awards and Recognition Committee
- Chapter Delegates Committee
- Member Relations/Communication Committee
- Finance Committee
- Golf & Event Outings Committee
- Lonestar GCSA Committee
- Scholarship Committee

We also need meeting hosts!

To volunteer to serve on one of our committees, or to host a meeting contact Shannon at ntgcsa@gmail.com.

Color for Any Season

Two proven technologies with flexible use rates help you dial in your color



PAR[®] SG

- Penetrates turf leaves for a long-lasting, natural look.
- Readily tank-mixes with most fertility, wetting agent, and plant protection products to ensure application uniformity.
- University proven to enhance turfgrass stress tolerance



Dormant Green[®] Plus

- Organic polymeric colorant designed to provide natural green color on non-dormant, semi-dormant, and dormant turfgrass.
- Enhanced efficiency with new, lower use rate than Dormant Green[®].



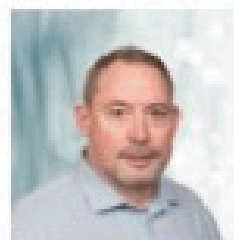
PAR[®] SG applied weekly at 5 oz/acre (right) improved rooting and leaf color in creeping bentgrass turf under drought stress conditions, as compared to a fertilized control with no pigment. The results of this university trial suggest including PAR[®] SG in a turf management program can be used to improve turfgrass performance and root growth in creeping bentgrass putting greens.

Virginia Tech 2019 Field Study –Dr. Zhang

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