

The GREEN Breeze



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Mark Your Calendar

Annual Meeting Sharon Woods Golf Course	November 5
OTF Conference & Show Columbus	December 3 - 5
Golf Industry Show Orlando	February 3-6

Announcements

Upcoming Event



From the President

Greetings, I hope this letter finds you and your family doing well. It is somewhat hard to believe, but another year has breezed by and winter can't be too far away. You know, winter when we don't have to worry quite so much about green speeds, dead turf, or reckless cart drivers.

I used to dread winter but now like most of you; it has become a time to rest and recharge my batteries for another coming season of the demands placed on us by our members, employers, and ourselves. For all the rigors our jobs involve I am afraid the most demanding person is sometimes the one you see in the mirror. This can be a good thing and a driving force in a successful career, but I warn you to know when to ease up on the accelerator. Your kids are only kids for a little while; take the time to enjoy them while you can. I promise it goes by faster than you can imagine, don't miss out.

Speaking of kids, mine are mostly grown now, Emily is twenty-one and graduating from Bellarmine University in the spring. She already has a job at Children's hospital in Cincinnati (Hallelujah!) and her future is quite bright, it is a real blessing. Zach is nineteen and attending Gateway Community College, he isn't sure of a career path yet—at his age I was only concerned about cars and girls, not necessarily in that order. How anyone decides what they want to do for eternity during those tender teen years is beyond me, he will find his niche in time.

As the season winds down and I look back, it was basically a pretty easy year for me. The monsoon rains we experienced at times were a thorn in the side and put a dent in the cash register, but we persevered. I did not have to purchase a single drop of irrigation water this year for the first time ever! Dollar Spot is an ever growing pain in the derriere, and I suffered some tough outbreaks on a couple of greens. Mysteriously my worst "pocketed" greens remained unscathed, and I have no explanation why. I have joined the ranks of the DMI resistant, not exactly my club of choice but it was a good run, see you later Banner, hello Secure.

continued on page 11



2013 Board President
Ron Freking

Greater Cincinnati GCSA Happenings

Meeting Information

- Registration will begin at 8:00 AM
- Breakfast at 8:30. Cost \$10.
- Annual Meeting to follow immediately.
- Election of two trustees to the Board.
- We will be taking nominations to the Board up to the time of the election.
- Committee Reports.
- Weather permitting, golf will follow, cost \$15. Visit our web site, log on, and make your reservation on the Calendar Page no later than noon on Thursday November 1, 2013. You can prepay by credit card or at the event.

*This month's meeting is sponsored by
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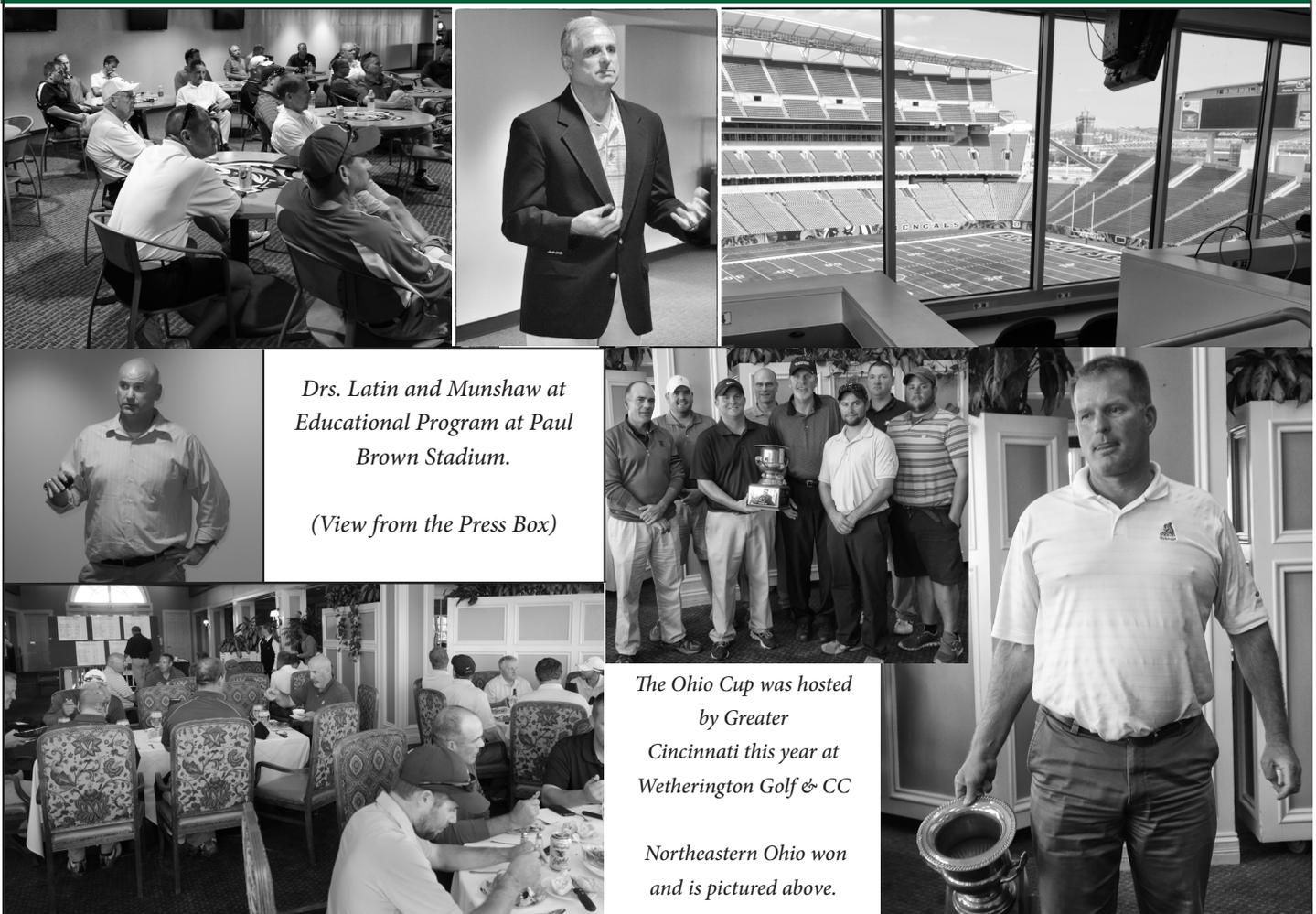
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Education at Paul Brown Stadium & The Ohio Cup 2013



Drs. Latin and Munshaw at Educational Program at Paul Brown Stadium.

(View from the Press Box)

The Ohio Cup was hosted by Greater Cincinnati this year at Wetherington Golf & CC

Northeastern Ohio won and is pictured above.

Host Facility for November: Sharon Woods Golf Course

The construction of Sharon Woods Golf Course began in 1936. WPA crews did most of the groundwork on the project. The course opened in 1938 when legendary amateur golfer Bob Jones hit the first golf ball on May 28. Mr. Jones was a fraternity brother of Park District Commissioner at the time, Mr. Alfred K. Nippert, who invited him to attend the opening of the course.

Mr. William H. Diddel was the golf course architect of Sharon Woods Golf Course. Mr. Diddel designed over 70 courses in his career. Other courses in Cincinnati he designed include: Kenwood County

Club, California Golf Course, Miami View Golf Club, Neumann Golf Course, Royal Oak Country Club, and The Mill Course at Winton Woods.

It is estimated that over 2.5 million rounds of golf have been played at Sharon Woods since 1938. Over the years, Sharon Woods Golf Course has been recognized by *Golf Digest* as a Four-Star "Places to Play" facility. The Cincinnati Enquirer rated it as the "Best Bang for Your Buck" in the Cincinnati area. Hole number three has been voted as one of the toughest holes in the city.

Host GCSAA Chapter Delegates Focus on the Future

The annual GCSAA Chapter Delegates Meeting (Oct. 1-2) took on a decidedly different appearance this year, as the focus was not so much on the current state of affairs, but more on the future of the association and the profession.

"We were intent on getting feedback on what the profession would look like in the future, targeting the range of 2020 to 2025," GCSAA President Patrick R. Finlen, CGCS, said. "It became obvious to the board through our discussions with those in the golf industry, including members, that the profession is experiencing rapid change. Superintendents are being asked to do more, and the tools and resources we use to do that job are changing.

Just look at what is happening with technology. The game of golf may not be changing much, but how we manage it is."

"We weren't looking for the delegates to construct how we get to the future, rather we asked them what the profession would require in terms of competencies," Finlen said. "With that feedback, we can then set in motion the plans for how GCSAA can best help members achieve future success."

According to Finlen, the delegates were strongly in support of the need to more narrowly define membership classes and enhance standards. However, opinions varied as to what the standards would look like and

the timeline for implementing them. He said the next step would be for the board to engage GCSAA members and others outside the membership in the coming months to get a greater diversity of input.

State of the Association

Finlen and GCSAA Chief Executive Officer Rhett Evans briefed delegates on various programs and services, noting the 2014 GCSAA business plan would continue to focus on the following priorities:

- Enhance technology to allow GCSAA to better serve members and provide them with tools that provide on-course solutions



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Hazard Ahead – Sand Depth Matters

By Keith Happ, director, North-Central Region

Sand depth affects bunker performance. Bunker sand that was installed to a 3-inch depth when it was recommended to be installed at an 8-inch depth is a problem. An accredited physical soil testing laboratory can determine the appropriate depth of sand to be used during bunker construction or renovation.

Regular irrigation has been required to maintain healthy turf while portions of the North-Central Region have been in the grip of recent dry weather. When greens and fairways are irrigated, bunkers will also receive irrigation. During Turf Advisory Service visits, golfers have asked why bunker sand is wet and firm. If the sand is not installed to the proper depth, it will not drain rapidly, and this will affect how bunkers perform.

A bunker is a hazard and there is no rule that mandates a hazard must be consistent. However, the depth of sand affects how bunkers perform under various weather conditions. If sand is installed too shallow, with the

intent of producing firm playing conditions (or possibly saving money), it will not drain uniformly. Bunker slopes may be dry, but low-lying areas of the bunker will collect water and not release it into drains. Thus, when irrigation is used for many days in a row, golfers experience wet and dry conditions within bunkers. Shallow sand depth is also why some bunkers remain too wet and become contaminated with algae at the sand surface.

A bunker is a hazard and there is no rule that mandates a hazard must be consistent.

There are many factors to consider when selecting bunker sand. Testing the sand is important and one measurement – particle size distribution – can be used to determine the ideal depth of sand for a bunker. A few inches of less-than-ideal sand depth can have a significant impact on playability and drainage. Give our North-Central offices a call if you have any questions: Keith Happ at (412)

341-5922. Credit: Keith Happ. September 3, 2013.

Harvest Time

By Bob Vaverk, Senior Agronomist, North Central Region.

Mid-October to mid-November is a prime time to control crop weeds and woody plant encroachment by scalping down the native roughs. Flail mowing the tall grass areas is a quick, simple operation, but removing the abundance of plant debris generated by mowing is always a challenge when most of the seasonal labor is gone. A more efficient option for golf facilities in rural areas is to make arrangements with local farmers to cut, windrow and bale the natural roughs wherever the course can accommodate the farm implements. Cleaning up the mowing operations becomes no more difficult than removing bales of “golf course” hay from the property.

Source: Bob Vaverk (rvavrek@usga.org).
October 16, 2013

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Ohio Turfgrass Foundation Notes

By Brian Laurent, Executive Director, Ohio Turfgrass Foundation

Are you getting the most out of your day? Are you being the best mentor that you can be to your employees? Are you being the best husband or wife, mother or father that you can be today?

A keynote speaker of an event that I recently attended reminded me of the fact that we can only live today. We need to take advantage of the unique opportunities presented to us today, and not be consumed with the past or looking forward to tomorrow.

This has been especially difficult for me as of late. With the conference coming up in just over one month, I've been completely consumed with work and even when I'm home, all that I can

think about is the next task I need to check off the list.



I know that I'm not alone! Having been around this industry my entire life, I know that nearly all of you are thinking about what's going on at work while you're away from the office.

I'm not suggesting that we stop thinking about these things... after all, that's the reason why we have attained some amount of success in our chosen professions. What I'm saying is, don't let the distractions get in the way of being your best *today!*

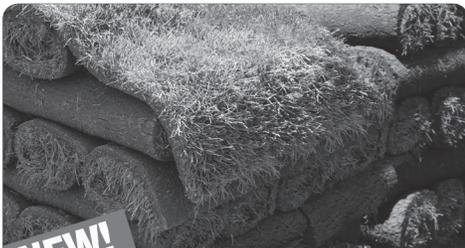
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Great Lakes Regional Roundup

By John Miller, CGCS. GCSAA Great Lakes Field Staff Representative



There is a lot going on with GCSAA as always this time of year. A majority of the staff is making preparations for the upcoming GCSAA Educational conference and Golf Industry Show.

The show this year will be back in Orlando, Florida from February 3-6. Golf will be in the Orlando area as well and will start on Saturday February 1 and end on the 3rd.

The show schedule is once again compressed with Thursday being the last day. You can play in the golf events and still attend education seminars and only be gone six days! GCSAA has listened to what superintendents have told us they want, all of the show and less time away from family and the golf course. There are new seminars, new events, and Bill Engvall will be speaking as well!

There has not been much movement on the government relations front. We are still dealing with the same issues from over the summer. We are trying to get the NPDES permitting resolution included in the Farm

Bill and Immigration Reform is still looming but with the government shutdown that has taken place everything is running behind.

One area of concern is the new OSHA mandate for MSDS sheets. They are changing the format and everyone that handles anything with an MSDS sheet must be trained in the new information by December 1st to be in

The show schedule is once again compressed with Thursday being the last day. You can play in the golf events and still attend education seminars and only be gone six days

compliance. If you would like to keep up to date with the government relations issues please check out that area on the website. Chava McKeel and her staff do a wonderful job of keeping the page updated and full of useful information.

Speaking of new information, GCSAA has started a regional web page. This is where you will find information about what is going on in the Great Lakes Area. There will be

regional forums where you can post questions to fellow superintendents or help out superintendents and assistant superintendents in your area. I will periodically write a blog for the site as well as keep it up to date with events going on in the area. Each region will have its own web page and GCSAA members can access all of them. These should be up and running by the end of October. You can also follow me on Twitter at GCSAA_GREATLAKE.

I hope to see you at an event soon, the next monthly meeting or at OTF in Columbus. In the meantime if you need anything please feel free to contact me. As always the EIFG needs your contribution, no amount is too small and for those many of you who have already donated, thank you.



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Cicada Killers Burrowing in Greens

By Dr. Dave Shetlar, The Ohio State University

Question

Dr. Shetlar it appears to me that I am having more problems with cicada killers digging into my sand greens and flying around my bunkers this year. Is it worse this year? And, what can I do about them when they are burrowing into my greens.

Answer

I haven't had any more cicada killer calls than normal this year and the story is pretty much the same as before. There is no spray known that will take these out over a larger area.

The best treatment is to use one of the garden dusts. These dusts come in a plastic or cardboard cylinder with punch holes on one end. Dust the opening of each cicada killer burrow, preferably in the morning when the adult females are busy cleaning out the burrow or just basking in the sun to warm up. They won't sting you, even if you hit them with the dust! They'll only sting you if you try to pick them up.

The idea of the dust is to get it on the burrow surface where the wasp will have to walk through it. When the female grooms herself, she'll ingest the insecticide which will kill her. Sprays apparently do not get sufficient residue on the soil for the wasps to pick up.

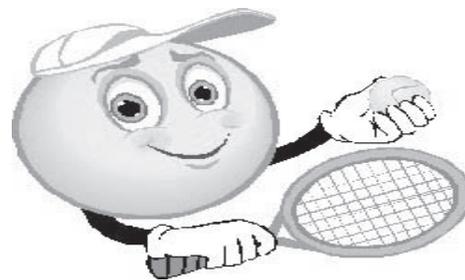
If you missed the Ohio State Field Day this summer, you missed some of the most practical advice for dealing with pesky Cicada killers from Dr. Shetlar "... hire a couple of kids armed with badminton rackets!"

I have actually heard from two superintendents who have taken my suggestion to hire a couple of kids armed with badminton rackets!" Once these kids have learned that the wasps won't sting them, they go and whack them down. The kids were offered 25 cents per wasp and they are now complaining that there are no more wasps to knock down!

I have also heard and seen another smaller wasp that is setting up shop in sand bunkers.

This little wasp is about an inch long and more black and white in color, perhaps with a little blue-green tint from the green eyes.

Like cicada killers, the males fly back and forth over the sand hoping to snag a receptive female. The females dig little burrows in the sand and provision cells with flies, primarily deer flies. So, these should be considered beneficial! And, like the cicada killers, these smaller wasps won't sting unless you try to capture one with your hands. Treatment would be the same (dust the burrow openings), but I highly recommend keeping this little wasp around!



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Ten Fundamentals for Life, Turf, and Success

By Rick Mooney, Golf Course Superintendent, Whitetail Golf Course, McCall, Idaho

What are the things we should strive for to make our lives successful and have a positive impact on those around us? Here is a list of qualities that I think can help us get the most out of life and enhance our experience on a daily basis.

These ten things are what I want my turf to do for me on a daily basis.

1. Show up when expected. (Germinate) No one likes to wait. Being prompt and prepared ensures that you will earn the respect and admiration of others.
2. Stand up proud. (Show vigor) Show the world your confidence and strength. Don't wilt under pressure.
3. Meet quality grooming standards. (Look maintained) Be consistently clean and well kept. Our appearance is often the first impression so you want to stand out in a positive way.
4. Be resilient. (Bounce back strong) - Life's "weather" can get you down but it can also make you stronger. Bounce back from the challenges thrown at you with a renewed sense of strength and purpose. When life takes a dig out of you, it can be hard to bounce back quickly. If you're doing everything else correctly, you will heal much faster.
5. Surround yourself with good company. (Don't let others encroach on your turf) In a world of weeds it's easy to get caught up with the wrong crowd. Focus on the people in life who help you excel and make you more productive.
6. Be willing to adapt to change. (Accept your new mowing height and some drought stress) Change isn't easy but it's necessary if you want to stay on top of things and progress. This simple quality will ensure that you become the best version of yourself.
7. Eat healthy. (Make the most out of every application) We are what we eat, so make it good. A healthy foundation starts from the inside out. Put the best fuel in your body to achieve optimum performance in your daily life.
8. Help one another out. (When there is a void fill in) We can't be strong *all* the time. To falter at times is par for the course. It's okay to lean on the strengths of others as well as offering your support when those around you are down. Always be willing to fill in!
9. Be consistent. (Be as good today as I can be) Provide similar achievement or effect over a period of time. This might be the biggest compliment you can receive.
10. Be fun and engaging. (Be a great place to enjoy the day!) The end goal is to have fun and enjoy life! Show up with a purpose. Keep those around you smiling and you will see an overall improvement in your life and function.

These ten qualities above are not all it takes to be successful and on course, but it will keep you headed in the right direction. If our turf, our family, and our staff can follow these principles; most everything will fall into place. I wish everyone good luck in getting the plants and people to follow these directions. I know that it is not always easy for me to do these things, let alone my turf!

Credit: *The Grass Clipping*. Publication of the Idaho GCSA. July 2013,

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Golfer's Vasculitis

By R. Brian Green, CGCS, Sunset Valley Golf Course

Naming a rash after golf isn't going to do much to grow the game, but the purpose of this article is to get the rash recognized, not golf.

"It's awful, look what it is doing to my legs!" says a veteran golfer. "It must be something you're spraying out here," she adds. I have heard that statement or a similar one many times over the years.

I would then suggest seeing a dermatologist and taking all of our Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) along to the doctor to find out which chemical we are spraying is causing the rash on our clientele's legs. The strangest part of these encounters is that I never learned what was actually causing the rash.

Confronted by this situation again this season, I came across a study out of Australia that has connected the issue to being mostly heat related. The report took a look at many different patients in Australia, all suffering from similar symptoms and most attributing the issues to severe allergic reactions after golfing, hiking, or walking outside for extended periods. Those in the study

believed the allergen to be grass or pesticide related but with none confirmed through sometimes extensive allergy testing. Furthermore, those afflicted could never pinpoint anything new they had used that would have caused the reaction like lotion, fabric softener, or soap.

"It's awful, look what it is doing to my legs!" says a veteran golfer. "It must be something you're spraying out here," she adds.

The study found there were two common denominators among all those inflicted; it occurred during the summer months under hot conditions and most patients were over fifty years old. The summary of the study states: "The findings would suggest that it occurs in healthy people and extensive investigation with blood tests or allergy testing is inappropriate. We believe the condition should be termed 'golfer's vasculitis', as golf appears to be the most common precipitating event and such a term would enable the condition to become more widely recognized.

It seems the rash is more common than originally thought, and goes mis- or undiagnosed because the symptoms disappear before an appointment with a dermatologist or physician is made and subsequently completed. The rash commonly appears on legs of people who participate in walk-a-thons, and those who attend theme parks where a large amount of walking (usually in summer) is a given. In fact, the rash has been called the Disney Rash (the Disney Corporation may have been behind the name change) and has been attributed to the parks operated by Disney for many years.

"I have gotten the Disney Rash during my last several trips, but I thought I was allergic to the landscaping since Disney is the only place I get it!"

If one suffers from Golfer's Vasculitis, common sense would dictate, don't go for long walks when it is hot outside. The most common recommendations I found are to:

- See your doctor or dermatologist and suggest Golfer's Vasculitis
 - Take a golf car instead of walking on
- continued on page 11*



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Track Your Spray: Using Turf Colorants

By Joe Lara, Product Manager, BASF

Adding a non-toxic, temporary coloring agent to your pesticide and fertilizer application mixtures before spraying allows your applicators to avoid expensive overlaps, unsightly skips and can help diagnose equipment problems, such as a clogged nozzle.

Getting Started

Before getting started, determine the colorant you want and know the advantages and disadvantages of each. Some turf colorant products offer more flexibility and a broader coverage range. Every course is unique, but your turf colors and the condition of the course will all impact the appearance.

For example, if you're applying to dormant grass, you should use a colorant like Green Lawngrer® that is formulated to be applied to dormant turf, whereas if you are applying to actively growing or slightly off color turfgrass, colorants such as Vision Pro™ HD or Transition™ HC will be your better option. To help find the product and color you like best experiment with different colorants on a practice green to find a rate, product, and frequency that looks best.

Pigment-Based vs. Dye-Based Colorants

There are pigment-based colorants and dye-based colorants. The analogy often used is dye is like sugar, it's going to dissolve. However, pigment is like a sand particle. It's much more resistant and it's not going to break down easily, especially in UV light. The dye-based is going to be visible anywhere from a few hours to a few days; the pigment-based is going to last much longer leaving a greater impact on aesthetics.

Remember, turf colorants are not silver-bullet solutions...

Many superintendents prefer spray colorants that include a pigment base for their longevity and nutrients. Research has shown how pigments can help reduce stress with plants. Some superintendents believe pigment-based colorants act like a sun screen and strong sun can be harmful to turfgrass, so with a pigment-based colorant you get a spray pattern indicator and plant protection.

Application

During the application process, many superintendents use a covered spray boom to help avoid drift while still using a fine spray with high-pressure, flat nozzles. An open boom will work too. The spray colorant shows exactly what areas have been treated and helps the applicator hit the target and not go off course. When using turf colorants as spray pattern indicators, you need to be careful to avoid overspraying onto pavement, concrete, or buildings. If you do, remove the overspray as quickly as possible with a brush or power washer because it will be extremely difficult to remove once it dries.

Weather is going to impact how quickly the application dries. Try to avoid rain and extremely windy conditions to limit drift potential.

Remember, turf colorants are not silver-bullet solutions, but they do a pretty great job when used as part of an integrated management program to help maintain high quality turfgrass.

Credit: Tee to Green. Publication of the Louisiana-Mississippi Chapter. Fall 2013.

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Presidents Note, continued from page 1

See if this sounds familiar, I have a group of about eight regulars: old timers and apparently unaffected by our cart rules. One of the old boys went so far as to flip a cart and crack a vertebra, did that get his attention? ... NO! I guess it's a good thing he is not the litigious type. He is still blistering our hillsides three days a week, rain or shine, cart path only or not.

Our annual meeting is scheduled for

November 5th at Sharon Woods, we will have a breakfast meeting with golf to follow, weather permitting. I encourage all of you to attend, there are board positions to vote for and it is an opportunity to voice anything you may want to discuss. If you are interested in running for the board please let Bob LaChance know ASAP so we can get you on a ballot. We need to elect one new superintendent and the commercial representative is up for a vote too.

I will end my rambling by saying it has been an honor to serve as your president. I would like to thank all the board members for their hard work; they have made my job easy. Our chapter is in good hands and on solid ground. We are financially sound and our membership is involved at our events. I encourage you to be involved and support your chapter; it is a valuable resource for all of us.

GCSAA Chapter Delegates Focus on the Future, continued from page 3

- Complete the implementation of the field staff program and the extension of member services to regions/chapters

- Dedicate additional resources to advocating on behalf of members to golfers, employers and policymakers

- Enhance education programming and

evaluate membership classifications to remain relevant in the marketplace

- Explore means to increase revenues through traditional and non-traditional sources

- Continue to be prudent in exploring and implementing programs and services that expand GCSAA's contribution to growing

the game worldwide

Delegates also had the opportunity to hear from those members running for national office and to participate in small breakout sessions to learn more about candidate platforms and philosophies.

Golfer's Vasculitis, continued from page 9

hotter days

- Pamper your legs following a round of golf — elevate and apply cool compresses
- Try compression socks or supportive leggings

The next time a member or golfer asks you what you've been applying to the turf and blaming you for the rash that has broken out on their lower

legs, tell them about the Disney Rash.

Credit: *On Course*. Publication of the Midwest Association of GC. September 2013.

Reference: *Australasian Journal of Dermatology*, Volume 46, Page 11, February 2005. "Golfer's vasculitis" by Robert I Kelly, Jacinta Opie, and Rosemary Nixon

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