

# Winter 2022 Greens Examiner

Utah Chapter

# GCSAA

Golf Course Superintendents Association of America



#### -MISSION STATEMENT-

The Utah GCSA is dedicated to improving the superintendents' position in the golf industry through education, networking, advocacy and to grow the game of golf.

#### -VISION STATEMENT-

Provide exceptional programs and services utilized by all members of the association.



**Murray Parkway Golf Course**  
Superintendent and Photo Credit:  
Dave Carruth

#### UPCOMING EVENTS:

January 12: Bowling Outing, Olympus Hills Lanes in SLC

January 13: Sponsorship Packets Due

February 6-9: GCSAA National Conference, Orlando FL

February 8: Chapters of the Northwest Hospitality Room, Tin Roof

February 15: UGCSA Winter Conference, Weber State University Davis Campus 8 AM - 3 PM



Utah Chapter

**GCSAA**

Golf Course Superintendents Association of America

**OFFICERS**

President: Josh Virostko, Lakeside Golf Course

Vice President: Jay Geise, Hobble Creek Golf Course

Secretary/Treasurer: Dallin Naulu, The Oaks at Spanish Fork

Past President: Brian Roth, CGCS, Oquirrh Hills Golf Course

**DIRECTORS**

Mike Hawkins, The Ranches Golf Club

Paul Stokes, Victory Ranch Golf Club

Jake Schneider, Schneider's Riverside Golf

Jason Moon, Hubbard Memorial Golf Course

**ASSISTANT DIRECTOR**

Chase Davidson, Jeremy Ranch Golf Club

**AFFILIATE LIASONS**

Jeff Murdock, Turf Equipment

Josh Tanner, Mountainland Supply

**UTAH GCSA OFFICE**

Allie Schneider, Chapter Executive

P.O. Box 150425, Ogden UT 84415

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## President's Corner

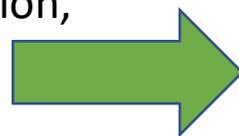


I have thought a lot about what I wanted to say in my first president's message, not because I feel that I have a lot to say that might inspire someone but simply because I have to say something in this space and don't want to waste the opportunity. After I was elected to be the president, I made the comment that I am the president you get when no one else wanted the job and you're left with a guy with not enough sense to say no. Although it was never my intention to be president of this association, I am happy to serve in this capacity and promise to take an active roll in the leadership and direction of this association.

I first would like to introduce myself as many of you don't know me. I started in the golf business back in 1998 in Florida. At the time, it was not a career, it was simply a job. I learned to rake bunkers and mow everything they would train me on. The most important thing I learned, however, was to check the lake edges for gators when you're weed eating around them, not as useful of a skill in Utah, however. Throughout the years since then I have worked at courses in Florida, Colorado, Provo, Las Vegas, St. George and now in beautiful West Bountiful. I've been everything from a mechanic to a superintendent and still find myself doing all those jobs daily in my current position at Lakeside.

What I would like to share my feelings on is Leadership and what that means as a golf course superintendent. I have been thinking of the UGCSA's mission statement since I joined the association in 2016. It states: The Utah GCSA is dedicated to improving the superintendent's position in the golf industry through education,

(Continued on the next page)



## President's Corner

networking, advocacy and to grow the game of golf. The first time I read our mission statement, I was a superintendent working under the direction of a golf professional.

I don't know how many of us are in that situation in our current jobs, but I imagine there are very few of us that agree that this is how a golf course should operate. Why are things this way? How can this association help improve the superintendent's position in the golf industry? I think the answer is leadership. We are in a time where we have a lot of adversaries against us. We have been struggling with availability of water and the perception our industry has of being over users of water. As developable land in the valley diminishes, our courses are looked at as not necessary. We have a generation coming up with low ambition and no inclination towards hard work. The list goes on and on. But I believe the answer to all those problems is leadership. Superintendents need to be the ones leading this industry. Everyone of us needs to be the leader and advocate for the course we have stewardship over. Leading means being up front and visible so that when a question arises the answer is given by us. We all do a great job leading our crews and our maintenance facilities, but it is time that we start "leading out". We all can do a better job being better leaders in the golf industry. There are opportunities to lead right here in the association, every year we struggle to find enough volunteers for the board. If you haven't been on the board, maybe next year is a great year to try. I would like to ask all our members to look for opportunities to be leaders in this industry, look for something you can improve on this year, and then put in the hard work to accomplish it. Maybe it's as simple as having a place in the pro-shop where you can display information about what your crew does on the course to prepare for golfers or how you have tackled the drought situation at your course. What ever it is, let's be the one to tell our course's story. I'll see you all at our next event! -Josh Virostko, President



# HAPPY HOLIDAYS

WE AT GREENSOURCE APPRECIATE YOUR BUSINESS AND ENJOY WORKING WITH YOU. WE WILL CONTINUE TO WORK HARD IN ORDER TO BE THE BEST SUPPLIER IN THE MARKET. THANKS FOR A GREAT YEAR. HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

FROM, GREENSOURCE  
TROY, ERIC, OZZIE & JAKE



## Chapter Executive's Corner



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you all!! My name is Allie Schneider, I'm the new Chapter Executive for the UGCSA. I'm excited to get to meet each of you and help keep the chapter running! I'm married to Jake who is the superintendent at our family owned course, Schneider's Riverside Golf Course. We've been married for fifteen years and when I'm not chasing our three kids or working, I enjoy cycling and I'm training for Little Red and Wildflower bike series this next summer. Watch out for me on the side of the road!

Here's a few things to keep in mind with the new year upon us:

- ✓ Have you ever thought about hosting a First Green field trip? They are super rewarding and fun! Contact me for more information or visit <https://www.thefirstgreen.org>
- ✓ We are looking for host courses for next year's Chapter Championship, if your course would like to host us, contact me for more information!
- ✓ Be on the lookout for our official BMP video highlighting the great work superintendents and their crew do day in and day out. We would love for you to share this on your social media channels.

I hope you've had a great holiday season with your family and loved ones. I'll see you at our next event!

-Allie Schneider, Chapter Executive

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## Upcoming Events

### COME SPARE AN AFTERNOON WITH THE

Thursday, January 12



**Location:**

Olympus Hills Lanes  
4015 S. Wasatch Blvd  
Salt Lake City, UT 84124



**Schedule:**

12:00-12:30 Check In

12:30 Bowling

After bowling prizes and networking

**Cost:** \$20 per player/\$80 per team

(Includes 1 hr of bowling, shoes, prizes for the top 3 winning teams, and drink ticket)

\$15 per person for 'networking only'

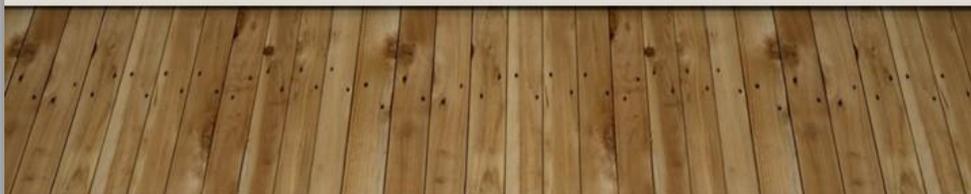
**Format:** 9-Pin No Tap (knock down 9 pins and it's considered a strike!)

4-person teams (form your own team or come as a single and we'll create a winning team for you!)

**Reservation Deadline:** Saturday, January 7, '23

**Reservation:** [ugcsa.org](http://ugcsa.org), click on 'Bowling Outing' under Register for Events tab.

See you there!!





# WINTER SALES EVENT

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## 2023 UGCSA Winter Conference



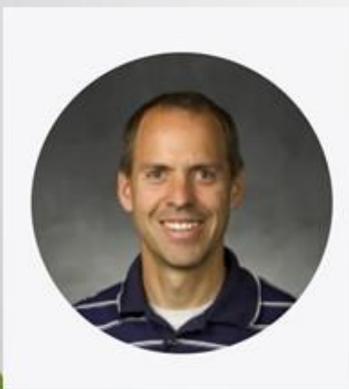
Date: February 15, 2023

Time: 8 AM – 3 PM

Location: Weber State University  
Davis Campus

Address: 2750 University Park Blvd  
Layton, UT 84041

Cost: \$75 Member/\$100 Non-Member  
*(Includes education and lunch)*



Speakers Include:

Bryan Hopkins, PhD

Brigham Young University

*Hybrid Bermudagrass*

Neil Hansen PhD

Brigham Young University

*Water Use and Conservation*

Amanda Christensen AFC

Utah State University

*Financial Wellness*



Full conference schedule to be  
announced soon!

# Equipment Manager Service Training and Meeting

Date: Tuesday, January 31, 2023

Time: 11:00 AM – 1:30 PM

Location: Victory Ranch Golf Club

Address: 7865 N Victory Ranch Road  
Kamas UT 84036

Cost: \$20 Member/\$40 Non-Member (*includes education  
and lunch*)



GCSAA  
Continuing  
Education  
Points Available



All education will be held in small groups and conducted around actual equipment in the shop. Discussions will be geared toward different manufacturers when possible (Toro, John Deere, Jacobsen, etc.)

## Equipment Education Topics:

Welding Demonstration (Victory Ranch),  
GCSAA Equipment Manager Certification  
(Dave Phipps), and additional topics.

Class is limited to first 30 participants.  
Register online at [ugcsa.org](http://ugcsa.org) under 'Register  
for Events.' Registration deadline 1.30.22





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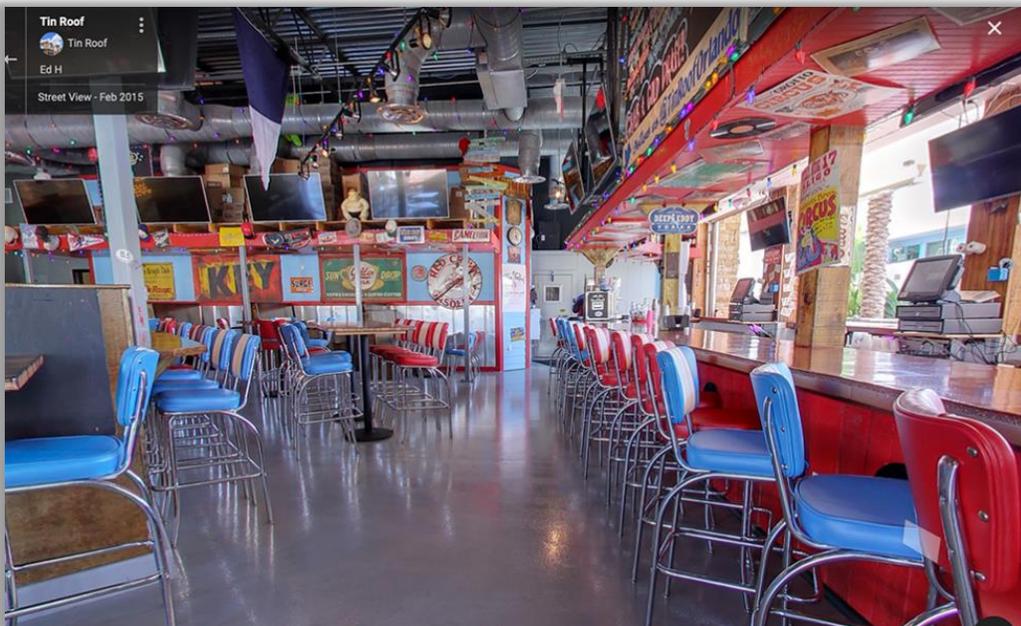
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Coming to the GCSAA National Conference? RSVP for the Chapters of the Northwest Hospitality Room at Tin Roof!  
February 8, 2023 from 6:30 – 9:30 PM  
8371 International Drive, Orlando FL 32819



RSVP by heading to [UGCSA.org](http://UGCSA.org)  
Under the “Register for Events” tab, click on Chapters of the Northwest Hospitality Room



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## Annual Meeting Recap

On Tuesday, October 18, members of the Utah GCSA attended the 2022 Annual Education Conference and Trade Show in Wendover, Nevada. Attendees started the first day with a business meeting where president, Brian Roth, went over the year in review. Members then heard from, and voted on, candidates running for the 2023 board of directors.

Next, we moved into the education portion of the event where Dave Phipps, our Northwest GCSAA Field Staff Rep, gave updates from GCSAA. After that, Henry Delozier from GGA Partners spoke about being a more effective communicator with tips to improve golfers' enjoyment and respect for water conservation efforts. Dr. Paul Grossl, Professor of Biogeochemistry at Utah State University, then took the floor to discuss managing soils impacted by salinity and sodicity. After lunch, Dr. Grossl did a field study to really look into how to put this into practice. Following Dr. Grossl, we heard from Dr. Chase Straw, Professor from Texas A & M University in Turfgrass Management and Physiology. He spoke on precision Turfgrass Management with regard to current trends and future applications. Later that evening, we moved into the reception and trade show where vendors exhibited new products and got a chance to connect with members.



### 2023 Board of Directors

(LtoR) Josh Tanner, Paul Stokes, Jake Schneiter, Josh Virostko, Jay Geise, Mike Hawkins, Jason Moon, and past president Brian Roth (not pictured Chase Davison, Dallin Naulu, and Jeff Murdock)



## Annual Meeting Award Recipients

Salesman of the Year: Ed Murdock, Great Basin Turf Products

Equipment Manager of the Year: Richard Oropreza, The Country Club

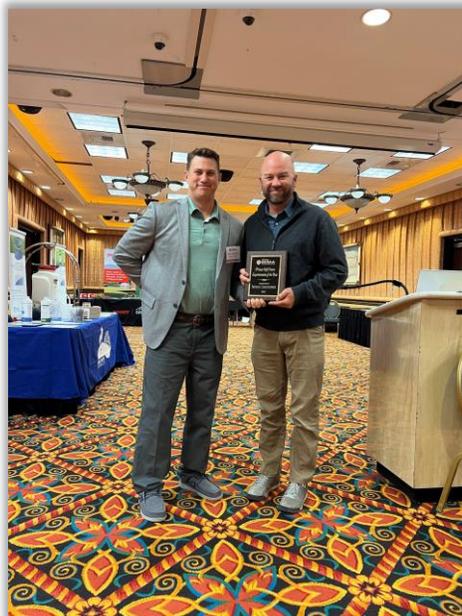
Assistant Superintendent of the Year: Steve Ahlander, Bonneville Golf Course

Superintendent of the Year (Public): Brian Dye, Skyline Mountain Resort

Superintendent of the Year (Private): Pat Christoffer, Red Ledges Golf Club

Distinguished Service Award: Lynn Ware, Highland Golf

### Congrats to all our 2022 Award Recipients!





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# Annual Meeting Golf Tournament

1st



2nd



3rd



# Annual Meeting Golf Tournament (Cont)



Day two was filled with a golf outing at the beautiful Toana Vista Golf Course with the following winners:

1st Place : Geise, Johnson, Butterfield

2nd Place: Johnson, Clyde, Isbell, Fitch

3rd Place: Murdock, Hansgen, Anderson, Sorensen

Hole Sponsors:

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- RMT
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Utah GCSAA		Utah GCSAA	
allen, Chad Robert, Jason Ebner, Jake Dje, Brian	62	Lasater, Mike Julbunen, Mark Valdivia, Jan Carlos Ware, Lynn	77
Blanchard, Dustin Carter, Steve Emery, Don Petterborg, Austin	61	Murdock, Ed Hansgen, John Anderson, Karl Sorensen, Nate	3 <sup>rd</sup> 60
Artis, Beau Hanson, Mark Traag, Jeff Virotko, Josh	63	Nohes, Jim Coates, Matthew Call, Brett Budge, Scott	66
Witzel, Bryan Echternkamp, Bill Benson, Bo Murdock, Jeff	60	Stokes, Paul Phipps, Dave Bailey, Caleb Vasquez, Alex	67
Johnson, Ozzy Clyde, Todd Isbell, Matt Fitch, Zach	2 <sup>nd</sup> 60	Winter, Rob Roth, Brian Bingham, Austin Butterfield, Ross	64
Johnson, Troy Butterfield, Brant Hansgen, Steven Geise, Jay	1 <sup>st</sup> 59	Woodland, Justin Landsis, Joe Oskey, Chad Burkhart, Dan	63

\*won scorecard playoff

Utah GCSAA		Utah GCSAA	
Gillars, Zak Schnetter, Jake Brown, Tyler Cloud, Brian	63	Chapman, Corey Dulke, Gordon Marrinsson, Janpe Fah, Marshall	64
Shane, Joe Moon, Jason Droppica, Richard Tye, Jeremy	61	Jeffries, Dave Parks, Austin Fitch, Aaron Campbell, Charlie	65



Special Thanks to our Annual Meeting Sponsors



**TURF EQUIPMENT  
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# Utah Food Bank Service Afternoon

On November 9, 2022, UGCSA members went to the Utah Food Bank and went through food donations to check for suitable items to go to recipients. Thanks Jeff Murdock and Paul Stokes for your participation!



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## Salesperson of the Year

### Ed Murdock, Great Basin Turf Products

Ed started working at Jackson Golf & Tennis at the age of 15. Mowing and irrigation was a great summer job through High School. After graduating from Utah State University with a Bachelor's in Landscape Architecture and a Master's in Business, he took a job as an Assistant at Salmon Run, a course on the Oregon Coast. 17 years later, and after moving into the Superintendent position, then the GM role, he decided it was time to move back. Through it all, he and his lovely and supportive wife, Tamra, have raised 3

daughters and a son. Their oldest daughter is an RN. She and her husband, an Army helicopter pilot, live in Alabama. Their second daughter teaches at a private school and her husband is an investment broker and live in American Fork. Their third daughter completed a year at USU and is now headed to Arkansas on an LDS mission, and finally, their 14-year-old son is at home living out his passion mountain biking all he can. They all love to golf and have a high appreciation for the job a golf course superintendent must do.



## Equipment Manager of the Year

### Richard Oropreza, The Country Club

Richard is Turf Equipment Manager at The Country Club in Salt Lake City. Prior to that he was the Turf Equipment Manager at Riverside Country Club. In addition, he managed BYU's Golf Training Facility in Highland, UT, for a few years. From starting off working on the grounds crew to successfully running his shop. He understands the science behind achieving a quality golf course and can tell you the shop is where the magic happens. The moment an important piece of equipment is out

of service, it's all eyes on him to quickly figure out a solution and get it back in service. The longer it's out of service, the more likely you are to get behind. He's set-up a preventative maintenance plan for every piece of equipment based on hours to reduce equipment failure. He's passionately driven. Two objectives he focuses on are Quality and Precision. He sets up his cutting units to achieve the best Quality of Cut using "reel" science and optimum cut technology. The Relief grind does matter, it makes the difference. "How You Do Something Is How You Do Everything" is the motto he lives by. He went as far as creating an Equipment QR-Code Maintenance Records System that records and tracks his entire fleet's service history, status, equipment specs, parts list history and stores it online. Simply scan the QR-code to view equipment records. He's been in the turf industry for 6 years and it's been quite the journey. He loves what he does and enjoys helping those around him. He's worked really hard to get to where he is now in his career and will continue to work hard. He's just getting started. It's time to change the way the game is played!

## Assistant Superintendent of the Year Steve Ahlander, Bonneville Golf Course



Steve was born in Salt Lake City and has grown up and gone through all levels of school on the East Side of the Salt Lake Valley. His dad happened to know the Superintendent of Forest Dale/ Nibley Park and helped him get a job as a seasonal on the grounds crew when he was a junior in high school.

He moved to Glendale golf course with Bryan Witzel when he was offered the Superintendent job in 2007. After 5 years of seasonal employment and

exploring other possibilities in education, he was offered the Golf Course Maintenance worker/Irrigation Technician job at Bonneville Golf Course in September of 2009. He has remained there and has become an Assistant Superintendent over his 14-year run. When his back is healthy, he loves to play a lot of golf and bowl (2005 high school state champion for Olympus). In the past few years, he has discovered a love of aqua-scaping and planting aquariums. He has nieces and nephews that he enjoys spending time with. As far as himself, he will remain a bachelor for the foreseeable future as he just never seems to lose the love of doing whatever he wants all the time!

## Superintendent of the Year (Public)

### Brian Dye, Skyline Mountain Resort



Brian's first job in the Golf Course Management Industry was at the Copper Golf Club in Magna Utah in 1983 where he was the Assistant Superintendent until 1988. During his tenure there, Brian and the Head Superintendent installed a Toro automatic irrigation system replacing the old Buckner quick coupler system. He attended The Salt Lake Community College graduating in 1995 with an Associate of Science Degree. After graduating he

went to work for Turf Equipment Company as a Mechanic until the following year when he started at Mick Riley Golf Course where he was the 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Superintendent. In 1998, he left Mick Riley and went To Riverbend Golf Course in Riverton, Utah. At Riverbend, he was the First Assistant Superintendent until 2002 when he moved up to South Mountain. He was 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Superintendent there for thirteen years until taking his current position at Skyline Mountain Resort.

## Superintendent of the Year (Private)

### Pat Christoffer, Red Ledges Golf Club



Pat Christoffer is the superintendent at Red Ledges in Heber City and an Agronomist for Troon Golf. Pat has a B.S. and M.S. in agronomy from Washington State University (Go Cougs!) and is a past president of the Utah GCSA. Over his 25-year career he has consulted on, built and managed golf courses throughout the west. He lives in the Heber Valley with his super awesome wife and destructive kids.

## Distinguished Service Award

### Lynn Ware, Highland Golf

Lynn grew up in the small town of Draper, UT and lived on a 2-acre farm that adjoined a 30-acre parcel that supported his grandfather's dairy operation. It was there that Lynn, at the age of 12, discovered his love of equipment and restored the 1948 Ford N8 tractor he found rusting away by the barn. While a teenager, Lynn became an independent landscape maintenance worker taking care of several homesteads for local



Draper residents. In the fall of 1975, Lynn chose to attend BYU, majoring in agronomy. In 1976, while serving an LDS Mission in Finland, Lynn met his future wife who was also serving her mission. Their paths crossed enough for Lynn to learn that she was from Sandy, UT, but went to his rival high school – Hillcrest. He decided to look her up when he got home, and they were soon engaged. After his mission, Lynn resumed his education at BYU. It was there he noticed a job offer for summer workers needed at Willow Creek Country Club. Lynn began working at Willow Creek in April 1979 – working under Marque Randall, who was the superintendent and alongside future superintendents Paul Bergantz (Lakeside GC) and John Brubaker (West Ridge GC). He graduated from BYU with a BS in Agronomy, with a self-made focus on Turf Management. Lynn eventually became an assistant superintendent to Marque Randall. In 1983, Lynn took the superintendent job at the Copper Club, in Magna, UT. He made the best of it for 5 months until he was approached by Jordy Smith from Boyd Martin Company and offered a sales position. After a long and serious evaluation, Lynn decided to make the switch to golf equipment sales. Over the next 15 years, Lynn worked for 4 different companies and 2 different markets. Lynn has been an active member of the Utah GCSA since his early days at Willow Creek and became involved by as the newsletter coordinator. In 2003, changes to EZGO forced Lynn to evaluate his employment and went to work for Highland Golf. In 2021, Lynn retired from Highland, ending his career in the golf industry that spanned 42 years. Lynn is enjoying retirement and lives with his wife Vicki in Stansbury Park. They have 5 sons, 5 gorgeous daughters-in-law, and 16 amazing grandchildren. He and Vicki just celebrated 44 years of marriage with many more to come!



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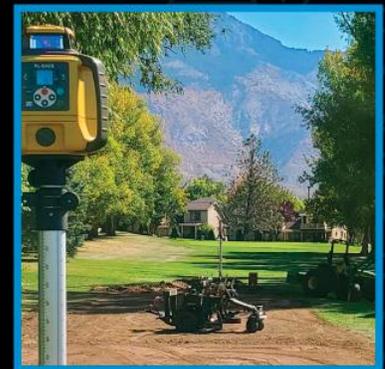
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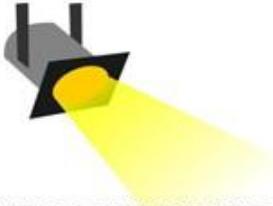
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## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



### 10 Questions with Michael Wiggins, Equipment Manager @ Cedar Ridge Golf Course in Cedar City, UT

#### 1. WHAT DREW YOU INTO THE TURF WORLD?

By happenstance actually. When I was 17, I saw an ad for Bloomington Country Club in St. George and thought it would be nice to have a job where I could work outdoors. I ended up absolutely loving everything about the job and stuck with it.

#### 2. WHAT DREW YOU TO YOUR CURRENT FACILITY?

I was working at a local UTV shop here in Cedar City and thought for a while that I missed working at a golf course. When I saw a job for the mechanic position became available I immediately hopped on it.

#### 3. DESCRIBE YOUR FACILITY IN 10 WORDS OR LESS

Our course is hardworking, lively, and feels like family.

#### 4. WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE YOUR YOUNGER SELF?

The things that seem big now will seem so small in the future.

#### 5. WHAT'S ONE MOVIE YOU CAN WATCH OVER AND OVER?

Tombstone

#### 6. FAVORITE HOBBIES / INTERESTS?

My hobbies are fishing, playing guitar, tinkering on old vehicles and I am constantly reading and learning new things.

#### 7. HOW IS YOUR GOLF GAME? HOW MANY TIMES DO YOU PLAY A YEAR?

Oddly enough, in all the time I've worked at a golf course I have never actually played around of golf. I have a set of clubs though and plan on starting to play soon.



#### 8. FAVORITE PRO / COLLEGE TEAMS?

San Francisco Giants and 49ers

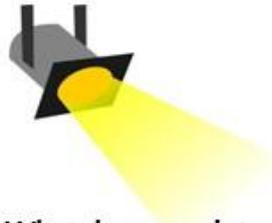
#### 9. WHAT IS THE MOST INTERESTING SITUATION (WORK OR PERSONAL) YOU'VE BEEN IN?

Just after I bought my new truck I decided to take it out fishing with the family. I pulled into an area that was a lot more muddy than I thought. I sunk the truck down to the axles and was completely stuck with my very pregnant wife and 3 year old daughter. Some people stopped to help - hoping my wife wouldn't go into labor. It took us roughly 3 hours to get it unstuck and on our way home.

#### 10. WHAT ARE THREE THINGS IN YOUR "TOOLKIT" YOU CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT?

Multimeter, fine tooth flex head ratchet and an electric impact gun.

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



### 10 Questions with Todd Clyde Assistant Superintendent @ Oquirrh Hills Golf Course in Tooele UT



#### 1. What drew you into the turf world?

I started working part time at Sky Mountain Golf Course during summer break from college. After working part time for a year, I decided that I really liked working on a golf course, and accepted a fulltime position. I love being able to work outdoors and operate different mowers and equipment, especially heavy equipment. I like having different day to day challenges.



#### 2. What drew you to your current facility?

I had been looking for the right opportunity for career advancements for a few years. When the Oquirrh Hills Assistant Superintendent job opened up, I was excited. I had seen the course while visiting Tooele. My wife has a sister in Tooele and it is a lot closer to our oldest daughter's family in Garland than when we were in So. Utah. I had a chance to drive the course with Brian while I was making the decision and really loved the layout of the course and how it's right up against the foothills of the Oquirrh Mountains.

#### 3. Describe your facility in 10 words or less.

A short course that is deceptively difficult in subtle ways.

#### 4. What advice would you give your younger self?

I would tell my younger self to get involved in the Golf Maintenance Industry sooner. I was 21 before I started working at the Sky Mountain. I wish I had gotten there right out of High School! And maybe I'd tell myself to be more confident in personal and professional situations.

#### 5. What's one movie you can watch over and over?

The Last Samurai or Dances With Wolves...pretty much a 'pick em' between those two.

#### 6. Favorite hobbies / interests?

I collect Antique Tractors and Engines. Grew up in Kansas farmlands where my Grandpa and Uncle farmed. Just grew to love old machines and how simple and reliable they were. Also got into Blacksmithing a few years ago and enjoy that very much.

#### 7. How is your golf game? How many times do you play a year?

I need to play more. I am good enough to get out and kind of hold my own in a game or contribute in a scramble tournament...but I need to improve and play better. Recently my rounds in a year have been down but I plan on increasing that number moving forward. My two young boys are getting into golf and that is for sure going to push a few more rounds a season!

#### 8. Favorite pro / college teams?

The San Francisco 49ers and the BYU Cougars.

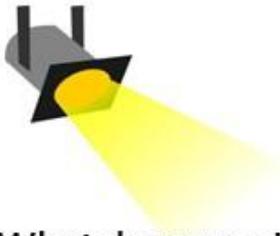
**9. What is the most interesting situation you have ever found yourself in? Work or personal.** One project I helped with as Irrigation Tech at Sky Mountain GC...we were enlarging a pond on #7 and needed to reroute the main line and all power and communication. The project took a while but I learned a lot throughout that project.

#### 10. What are three things in your "toolkit" that you can't live without?

- 1- Course As-Built
- 2- Irrigation Radio
- 3- Shovel



## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT – DECEMBER 2022



### 10 Questions with Mel Duke Superintendent @ Toana Vista Golf Course



#### What drew you into the turf world?

I got a job with Gene Schneiter in 1967 to help build Bloomington Country Club and St George Golf Club. Gene convinced me that I wanted to do this as my career.

#### 2. What drew you to your current facility?

Getting out of Utah, the money I could make, plus it was a real challenge to go out and take care of Toana Vista Golf Course. I went out and looked at it before I applied for the job and it was in pretty rough shape. When I first got that job, it took two to three years to get it back to where it was supposed to be. I enjoyed the challenge and it is still fun, even though I am going to retire in February.

#### 3. Describe your facility in 10 words or less.

The worst sight for a golf course ever (as far as the soluble salts and the ability to keep the salt down so we can grow grass).

#### 4. What advice would you give your younger self?

Don't work so hard.

#### 5. What's one movie you can watch over and over?

Caddyshack

#### 6. Favorite hobbies / interests?

#1 Golf and #2 being with my grandkids and my wife.

#### 7. How is your golf game? How many times do you play a year?

I haven't played golf a lot because of my back, but if I could I would play at least three times a week.

#### 8. Favorite pro / college teams?

You can't ask me that, there are dozens. Jazz basketball, University of Utah, BYU, and Utah State. I like to watch all of them.

**9. What is the most interesting situation you have ever found yourself in? Work or personal.** I've had a pretty boring life, so just life itself. Everything in the turf business has been interesting because there are challenges every day.

#### 10. What are three things in your "toolkit" that you can't live without?

1. My wife, every day, and playing with my grandkids
2. Warm weather
3. Watching Jazz basketball



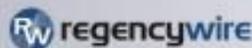
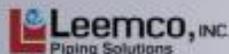


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## In Memory



Brett Schneiter

August 21, 1956 – September 16, 2022

Superintendent, Schneiter's Riverside  
Golf Course & Previous Chapter President

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## Being an Assistant Superintendent



My name is Todd Clyde. I am the Assistant Superintendent at Oquirrh Hills Golf Course in Tooele, UT and I have been in this position since March of 2021. Before coming to Oquirrh Hills, I worked at Sky Mountain Golf Course in Hurricane, UT as the Irrigation Technician. I had worked there since June of 1999. For the past 10 years I had been pursuing an Assistant Superintendent position. I felt like I was ready to make the jump. At Sky Mountain I had taken on more responsibility as project foreman, opening the golf course on weekends and managing a weekend crew.

As much as I felt like I was ready to take on an Assistant Position, when I actually did get it, it was a little bit of a wakeup call! Before you think I'm going to be reporting on a slew of nightmares that happened, I'm not. Really, my daily duties on the golf course did not change too much. My responsibilities, however, did. Not only did I have daily duties to attend to, but now I had to manage the time and responsibilities of the crew. For my first 20 years on a golf course, I had it easy. I would report to the Assistant or the Super above me. Now, all of my crew was reporting to me and expecting direction and answers. For the first couple weeks on the new job, it was a little intimidating as I was trying to get to know the golf course, my new crew, and figuring out what was expected of me in my new leadership role. Understanding that there are going to be mistakes in the beginning is a given. Especially moving to a new course with different maintenance practices. Luckily, I was able to keep those mistakes to a minimum last summer. There are several things that I can do that help. Having a good working relationship with the Superintendent, the Equipment Manager, and

## Being an Assistant Superintendent

the crew is essential. Being able to communicate with them helps accomplish the day to day challenges, as well as achieving long term goals and success. Obviously, being able to communicate with the Superintendent is paramount to creating, not only a smooth work environment, but also to efficient, daily workings on the golf course. Being able to communicate with him has negated many issues before they even manifested themselves. Making myself available to the employees to talk about what they are seeing on the course, daily challenges, and even jobs they like or dislike. Another method of help was maintaining a good relationship with the Assistant Superintendent I worked under for 20 years. I could call him and communicate problems that I was facing and receive advice and encouragement from him. Several times during our conversations I would praise his work and tell him how hard it was taking the leap to an Assistant. He would laugh and agree, but would also reiterate the positives of the job and boost and build me up so that I felt good about my progress and the way things were going. Lastly, attending Chapter GCSA meetings and events has proved beneficial as well. Meeting with Superintendents and other Assistants and talking through experiences has been extremely valuable and rewarding. At the end of the day, taking the Assistant Superintendent job at Oquirrh Hills Golf Course has been very rewarding. When asked if I like it, I immediately respond, 'I love it' without hesitation. I wouldn't trade what I do for anything and I love being on the golf course. I have enjoyed the move to Tooele and getting to know new people and coworkers. Taking this job has pushed me and challenged me to the point where I am forced to improve myself in order to become what I need to be to fulfill my job expectations. Was I ready to take on these challenges? Yes....and no. Am I done learning? Not by a long shot!

Todd E. Clyde

Assistant Superintendent  
Oquirrh Hills Golf Course



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## Calling all Photographers for the 2024 UGCSA Calendar!

The Utah GCSA wants you to share the beauty of your course with our photography contest! We are looking for images of your golf course, wildlife on the course, maintenance operations and/or construction. Images will be judged on composition, originality, technical excellence, and artistic merit. All photos should accurately reflect the subject matter and the scene as it appeared. Photos that are digitally altered beyond standard optimization (e.g., removal of dust, cropping) will be disqualified. We will be accepting digital images January 1 through August 31, 2023. We invite all photographers from all levels of expertise to submit their best photos for a chance to be showcased in our 2024 calendar!

Submit photographs and requested information to [intermountaingcsa@gmail.com](mailto:intermountaingcsa@gmail.com) with the subject "Calendar Photo Contest". Photographs must be submitted in an image format (.jpeg, .jpg, .gif, .tiff, .png, .eps).

- 1st place winner will be awarded the calendar cover.
- One individual photo will be selected for one of the monthly calendar spots.

### Submission Guidelines & Photo Requirements

- Up to 3 photos may be submitted per photographer.
- Photos must be horizontal or "landscape;" vertical photos will not be considered.
- Max file size 20 MB per photo.
- Photographs must be submitted in an image format (.jpeg, .jpg or .gif, .tiff, .png, .eps).
- If you choose to include people in your submission, you are responsible for obtaining the necessary releases from the individuals depicted.
- Use "highest" quality for best results.
- Do not add watermarks, dates, logos, names, etc. to photographs.

**Include the following information with each image** • Name of photographer • Date photo was taken (month/year) • Location where photo was taken (please include course name and city) • Name(s) of person(s) and/or animals in the photo • Description of photo (e.g., describe what is happening in the photo).

**Judging** will be conducted by a panel selected by the Utah GCSA Board of Directors as its sole discretion.

#### Contest Rules

- This contest is open to amateur photographers at least 18 years of age who are in good standing as a member of the Utah GCSA.
- The 2022 Photo Contest will run from January 1, 2022, to August 31, 2022. Late entries will automatically be disqualified. • Submitted photographs must be previously unpublished to be considered.
- All photos must be in color and relevant to either your golf course, wildlife on the course, maintenance operations and/or construction.
- All submissions must include the name of the photographer, date the photo was taken, location the photo was taken, name(s) of person(s) and/or animal(s) in the photo and a description of the photo. Only submission that include this information will be considered eligible.
- Photographers may enter up to three photographs so long as the information is included with each image.
- By submitting photography to this contest, you agree to allow your photograph(s) to appear in Utah GCSA's publications, including Greens Examiner and/or other promotional materials, as well as the Utah GCSA's website without paying compensation to the photographer or the subjects. All entries become exclusive property of the Utah GCSA.
- Utah GCSA assumes no responsibility for lost, late, misdirected, illegible entries or for any electronic or internet-related hardware or software failures or malfunctions that may occur.
- No purchase or payment is necessary to enter or win this contest. Contest void where prohibited.

## 2023 Calendar Dates

January 1: UGCSA Calendar Photo Kickoff

January 12: Bowling Match, Olympus Hills Lanes 12:00 PM

January 13: 2023 Sponsorship Packages Due

January 31: Equipment Manager Training @ Victory Ranch

February 6-9: National GCSAA Conference, Orlando FL

February 8: Chapters of the Northwest Hospitality Room, Tin Roof 6:30 – 9:30 PM 8371 International Dr, Orlando FL 32819

February 15: Winter UGCSA Conference, Weber State University Davis

April 1: 2023 Scholarship Applications Open

April 24: Spring Meeting, The Oaks at Spanish Fork

April 24 – May 3: Rounds for Research

May 6: Service Opportunity, Ronald McDonald House

May 17: Deadline for Scholarship Applications

August 29: 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Chapter Championship

August 31: Deadline for UGCSA Calendar Photos

November 9: Service Opportunity, Utah Food Bank



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