

Sunday, March 3, 2024

12:30 p.m. - Board of Directors Strategic Planning Meeting / 4:30 p.m. - Board of Directors Meeting

Monday, March 4, 2024

7:00 a.m. Registration desk open. Please sign in at the registration desk. Continental breakfast is available, co-sponsored by **SIMPLIT TURF & HORT., MAGIC VALLEY TURFGRASS** and **JOHNSON DISTRIBUTING** NOTE: Please bring your silent auction donations you have committed to donating, and give to Craig Ross.

8:00 - 9:15 a.m.

“Traffic Jams: How to use Golf Course Traffic to Your Advantage”

We will cover a broad range of scientific and practical topics on understanding, managing and using traffic on the golf course to address cultural management challenges. A specific emphasis will be placed on golf footwear impacts on putting surface performance, using traffic for OM mgt., and rolling for pest management and weed control.

Frank S. Rossi, Ph.D., Associate Professor, School of Integrative Plant Science, Cornell University

9:20 - 10:10 a.m.

“Impacting Agronomic Practices on a Daily Basis from Your Shop”

Superintendents and equipment managers can sometimes run into disagreements about equipment use and management. Understanding timing and rationale for use as well as why some agronomic practices are utilized can be critical to preserving equipment as well as enhancing the workplace balance. This presentation goes through the thought process from an agronomic side as to why activities are completed and aims to marry the maintenance of the golf course with the maintenance of the equipment.

Edward Nangle, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Ohio State University Agricultural Technical Institute

10:10 - 10:30 a.m. Break (Auction - Bid! Bid!)

10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

“Golf Turf Moneyball: Using Data to Make/Save Money and Reduce Risk”

We are inundated with data and many are overwhelmed when it comes to using the data to make decisions. This session will discuss the kinds of data that are most useful to enhancing playability and turfgrass performance.

Frank S. Rossi, Ph.D., Associate Professor, School of Integrative Plant Science, Cornell University

11:30 - 11:45 a.m.

“GCSAA Update”

Douglas D. Dykstra, CGCS,

White Mountain Country Club in Pinetop, Ariz.

11:45 - 12:45 p.m.

Lunch sponsored by: 

12:45 - 2:10 p.m.

“We Made it Through 2023”

Stories from your peers, ranging from challenges to successes to projects to pretty much anything!

Ryan Blechta, The Club at Spanish Peaks, Big Sky, Mont.;

Cole Clark, Pryor Creek Golf Course, Huntley, Mont.;

Jason Lamb, Sidney Country Club, Sidney, Mont.;

Dustin Nelson, Buffalo Hill Golf Club, Kalispell, Mont.;

and Bob Popp, Laurel Golf Club, Laurel, Mont.

2:10 - 2:30 p.m. Break co-sponsored by

PACIFIC GOLF & TURF, WILBUR-ELLIS /THE ANDERSONS and **DESERT GREEN TURF** (Auction - Bid! Bid!)

2:30 - 3:15 p.m.

Business Meeting presided by President

Garrett Turner, The Reserve at Moonlight Basin, Big Sky, Mont.

3:15 - 4:15 p.m.

“Drought Stress Tolerance as Impacted by the Use of Biological Products — year two of never-ending testing”

What are biological products and how do they possibly work. Efforts ongoing at The Ohio State University to evaluate a range of products to enhance drought tolerance are discussed here. How these products are viewed from a legal standpoint as well as what that may or may not provide as benefits are given consideration while fitting them into a turfgrass managers program is also given time.

Edward Nangle, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Ohio State University Agricultural Technical Institute

7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

“Billings Banter” and Silent Auction

Group discussion moderated by Jason Lamb, Sidney Country Club, Sidney, Mont.

9:30 p.m. “Auction Ends”

Tuesday, March 5, 2024

7:20 a.m. Continental breakfast is available, co-sponsored by **2M COMPANY, BRIDGER CREEK GOLF COURSE** and **DESERT GREEN TURF**

8:00 - 8:20 a.m.

“Allied Member Silent Auction Presentation”
The Andersons

8:30 - 10:20 a.m.

“Winterkill: Lessons Learned for Mitigating Damage, Reestablishing Greens, and Current WinterTurf Research Efforts”

This presentation will focus on factors that cause winterkill, cultural practices such as fertilizer applications, sand topdressing, mowing height, core aeration, and the use of covers to minimize or prevent winterkill, and

reestablishment techniques following winterkill. Preparing turf for winter extremes is a critical component to the golf course IPM program as a healthy turfgrass stand is more resistant to pest pressures the following year than a turf that has been weakened by winterkill injury. An update on the WinterTurf research project will provide attendees with the current state of knowledge on winterkill on cool-season turfgrass and describe novel approaches that are being used to identify new solutions to reduce winter stress injury.

Kevin W. Frank, Ph.D., Professor & State Extension Turfgrass Specialist, Michigan State University

10:20 - 10:40 a.m. Break

10:45 - 11:45 a.m.

“Organic Matter Accumulation and PGR Responses in Creeping Bentgrass Cultivars — there are differences”

As a host of new creeping bentgrass cultivars are being released, their management and use of various products need to be evaluated from both an agronomic and playability standpoint. Research ongoing is looking at 10 new cultivars of creeping bentgrass and how the rates of organic matter accumulation are occurring and if they are impacted by both growth regulator use and nitrogen rates differentially. This presentation discusses creeping bentgrasses and ways forward for their management especially in a new era of golf course renovation and construction.

Edward Nangle, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Ohio State University Agricultural Technical Institute

11:45 a.m. Lunch
Sponsored by



Our Speakers

Kevin W. Frank, Ph.D., is a professor and state extension turfgrass specialist at Michigan State University. He holds a M.S. and Ph.D. in horticulture from the University of Nebraska and B.S. in plant science from the University of Wyoming. Frank’s research interests include winterkill prevention and reestablishment, turfgrass nutrition, fate, and fertilizer programming. He serves as the MSU Turfgrass Committee Chair and as the MSU Liaison to the Golf Association of Michigan.

Edward Nangle, Ph.D., served as director of turfgrass programs for the Chicago District Golf Association prior to moving to OSU/ATI. During his time with the CDGA, he was responsible for diagnosing and troubleshooting turfgrass issues at 392 golf courses and teaching the online Great Lakes Turf School. Nangle has gained a wide range of experience at golf clubs in Australia, Ireland and the U.S. He earned his Ph.D. from The Ohio State University, where he taught a number of undergraduate courses in turfgrass and ornamental landscape plants. Nangle currently serves as a consulting director of research for the Irish Sportsturf Institute and is collaborating with the PIN app, which is being spearheaded by Adam Scott. And if he wasn’t already busy enough, Nangle also serves as the golf education director for OTF and education liaison for OLCA.

Frank Rossi, Ph.D., (@fsr3) is an associate professor in the School of Integrative Plant Science at Cornell University where he leads the Turfgrass Science Program and teaches courses in horticulture, turfgrass science and food systems. He has advised more than 25 graduate students who have gone on to contribute to both the study and practice of turfgrass science, water quality protection, as well as veterinary medicine and organic golf course management. Rossi has published scientific books, chapters, articles, columns, videos, and podcasts, mostly because he can’t stop talking about grass. You can hear him on the popular “Frankly Speaking” Podcast@Turfnet.com. Rossi has had a long career advocating for excellence in environmental stewardship and has been recognized throughout his career as among the most influential people, receiving notable awards including the 2018 GCSAA President’s Award for Environmental Stewardship. He is married and the father of three children, past-president of his local school board, and a Gentleman Farmer specializing in humanely and pasture-raised Heritage Breed pigs and poultry (@belcantofarm).

We appreciate our member volunteers participating at this meeting!

“Almost”

Spring Meeting and Silent Auction

March 4-5, 2024

**DoubleTree Hotel by Hilton,
Billings, Mont.**

Event Sponsor:

** Make hotel reservations by
February 15, 2024
to receive VERY reduced rates*

** Register by February 22, 2024
to receive registration discount*



