MISSISSIPPI VALLEY GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

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PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

I have been struggling to come up with a meaningful President’s Message as we approach Christmas. You see, for the last week of October, and most of the month of November, I made five trips to the Mayo clinic in Rochester Minnesota, staying for three to four days at a time. All day long in some hospital room, nights in a hotel. My Dad had suddenly become sick, diagnosed with liver cancer. It was a long month that culminated with a funeral the Monday before Thanksgiving.

My Dad’s organs were failing him in that hospital bed. He was too weak to get up, but his mind was sharp as ever. I had some of the best conversations of my life with my Dad in those hospital rooms. I was amazed by him. He wasn’t scared. He was ready and prepared. He knew where he was going. A little worried about my Moms welfare, but that is understandable.

I had time to tell him I loved him, and he had time to tell me how proud he was of me and loved me. He told me what a blessed life he’d been given. His wife, two children and all the success the Lord had bestowed on him. He was a teacher and a football coach who had over 200 wins, and is in several coaching hall of fames.

I didn’t realize how many lives he had affected. I knew there would be a lot of ex-players at the funeral; I knew firsthand how he had affected his player’s lives. But the cards and people that showed up that were his students were unbelievable, and their statements brought me to tears multiple times. Even though he was my teacher as well, I didn’t know.

So, as I am feeling blessed this Christmas season that I was fortunate enough to have spent fifty-four years learning from my Dad, I began to think about what have I done? After some reflection I was a bit surprised as to some of my conclusions. I’ve spent thirty some years as an Assistant or Superintendent. There have been hundreds of young people who have spent a summer or more with me. I occasionally run into some of them from time to time. I’m always shocked to find they are adults now, have families and jobs. Often I was the one who gave them a favorable reference for their first job. Surprisingly they often thank me for their time with me. They mention our staff teaching them how to work. I’ve been blessed with good people who work hard and are good influences. There are young people both current and in the past who I have had a positive influence on.

This Christmas I can be thankful. Thankful I have been able to affect some young lives positively. I have done something good in my life. I love my job. I truly do. I bitch a lot at times, Tim Roethler calls me Grumpy Bear for a reason, but I really do love what I do. Each new season there is potential for a new crop of young people. Hopefully I can teach them something along the way. Lead by example, and be a good influence on their way into life….truly something to be thankful for this Christmas.

Mike Null, President
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The process of putting this newsletter together usually starts close to a month before it ends up in your mailbox. I send out an annoying email and see who is game for making a contribution. Slowly but surely people respond with a yes or a friendly decline. Our Director of Operations, Chuck Gast, was one of the first to email me his article. Along with a word document, Chuck sent along some pictures that essentially documented 2016. Initially I did not read the article and just looked at the pictures. They were impactful and not only documented the year but reflected what the MVGCSA represents. Those pictures are featured on the cover of this magazine and I wonder how they affect you. They stirred these thoughts in me:

Mike Carron and Mike Hartman – Mike Carron has impacted my life more than anyone in the turf industry. He gave me my shot out of college and recommended me for the Super job at St. Clair. He mentored me, got me involved with the MVGCSA, the Gateway Green and remains a friend to this day. You were patient with me Mike, thank you. Mike Hartman told me at my first MVGCSA meeting at Fox Creek back in 1996 that I needed to work on my golf game. Sage advice Mike, regretfully I am a horrible listener.

Nadine Harskamp, Sherri Klinkhammer and Tim Gamma – Just an awesome picture that speaks to what the MVGCSA represents. Golf, family, business and friends.
Great Circle Ball Field Renovation – Time and time again the MVGCSA has been asked to give and we step up. Whether it was the Morelock Fundraiser or Keep It Green our group has given and volunteered when asked.

Josh Nelson, Ben Scanio, Glen Keeven and Mike Prenger – Let’s start with that beard Josh…epic. The same gene that is in honeysuckle and kudzu helps you grow that beard. Through my travels I have come to learn how talented Josh is as a project manager at Algonquin. Ben Scanio…as good a guy as I have met in our business. Tutored me along the way and has remained a friend despite being a competitor. One of my favorite stories about Ben involves the police, a rotisserie chicken and an old box truck from the Outdoor days. Glen Keeven…please under no circumstances update your picture in this featured magazine and thank you for the 856th time for all the beer I have drank on your dime. Mike Prenger, again with the beard….no question, if GreensPro starts selling Stihl Chainsaws you are my guy.

Flooded Bridge @ Pomme Creek – Just a cruel reminder of the challenges of being a Superintendent. The flooding at the end of last year took a huge toll on several area golf courses. The time and effort to remedy those courses from flood damage was monumental. Along with those December floods we had a grueling Summer with June being hot and dry, overwhelming July rains and a typical August. The MVGCSA helps facilitate communication between you guys when you are facing our transition zone weather challenges….make a call or send a text, you are not alone.

Anywho….I guess the point I am trying to make is that the pictures on the cover tell the story of the MVGCSA better than anything I could ever write. They can elicit memories, past and current experiences, friendships and people you have met through our industry. If someone asks why join the MVGCSA or why get involved I think the pictures Chuck provided are reason enough alone.

Literary eutrophication (excessive richness of writing skills…possibly a stretch on using that word) is what we are presenting here in our final issue of 2016. Gold star and a high five for our diverse group of authors….diverse meaning articles not penned by me, Jill Scott (also me) Rob Kick or D Hump. Chris Rapp makes his Gateway Green debut with “The Grind”. His articles will document in each issue what is happening with the Equipment Technicians. Each issue is the key to that sentence…when your article has a title, i.e. Kick’s Corner, you are committed for life. I like Chris’ energy, that sweet mustache and passion for his career. I smell some new sponsors for the Double G Mike. Kolby Armbruster also embarks on his first article representing the Assistant’s in the Valley. Kolby pens a nice summary of the Assistant events this year and stresses the importance of getting involved. Great to see you following your own advice Kolby, I appreciate your input. D Hump is on his game, skillfully writing an article summarizing what happened at this year’s Chapter Delegate Conference in Lawrence. This is Don’s 7th time attending the Chapter Delegates Meeting, well done sir. Sans a rant on Krampus, Rob Kick eloquently describes who is good for golf. He is missing one person though, that is Rob Kick and what he brings to this magazine two or sometimes three times per year. Mike Null has a heartfelt article mourning his father’s death. Overwhelmed at his Dad’s funeral meeting the number of people his Dad impacted made Mike realize the number of youth he has impacted over the years being a Superintendent. I would like to thank Chuck Gast for his article summarizing the MVGCSA year and the pictures that inspired this article. Keep up the great work Chuck running this association. Finally thank you to Mike Carron for his work with our wonderful advertisers and thank you Larry Torno for working your magic.

Merry Christmas!

Paul Hurst, Editor
We learned about many issues and failures and how to identify their causes. Diagnosis is the key to a successful repair. We learned that fuel issues are responsible for many problems. The big “takeaway” was probably proper selection, handling, and storage of today’s complex fuel blends.

We had also hoped to put together some sort of community outreach program.

We are still working on that one, but today is a new day for new ideas.

Another positive benefit from these gatherings has been the opportunity for some of the equipment vendors to showcase their new offerings. They are able to get the iron in front of quite a few folks in a relatively short amount of time. There is often service staff from the vendors on hand as well. Much knowledge can be obtained from those on the other side of the counter. This was the sixth meeting we have put together for the techs. All have been well attended and, by all accounts, the objectives are being met.

The education for the meeting on December 6th was provided by Stan Woodfin of Crader Distributing. Crader is the Stihl Distributor out of Marble Hill, MO. Stan has been with Stihl’s technical service department for 29 years. His presentation was titled Mixture Lubricated Engine Maintenance. It focused mainly on two-stroke engine principles and operation. It also touched on the newer compact four-stroke technology. We all sometimes take the repair

(continued on page twenty-two)
Merry Christmas!
A Message from Your Director of Operations
By Chuck Gast, Director of Operations, MVGCSA

Where the heck did 2016 go? Another wonderful summer, world chaos shoved down our throats daily and oh yeah, there was an election. Lots of fun stuff! Guess time really does fly when you’re having fun.

Well, one thing’s for certain! We certainly had some fun in and around the MVGCSA this past year! Here is a wrap up by the numbers…

215 MVGCSA members

13 MVGCSA members serving as your Board of Directors

230+ folks received (3) Gateway Green “Award Winning” publications – for free!

11 events from February thru December

9 Committees

1 Charitable work project by the MVGCSA with the Great Circle organization

11 MVGCSA Scholarships awarded totaling $7,500

1 additional classification added to MVGCSA – Welcome Equipment Technicians!

740+ participants at these 2016 events

2 MVGCSA Research grants to Mizzou totaling $10,000

1 Annual donation to the Wee One Foundation totaling $990

1 thriving website www.mvgcsa.com full of current MVGCSA information and upcoming activities

11 Board of Directors meetings

11 MVGCSA Scholarships awarded totaling $7,500

Things are definitely hopping here at your Mississippi Valley Golf Course Superintendent’s Association and the focus is to continue this trend well into the future. We’re gonna continue to have fun and share a lot of information along the way… communicate, commiserate and celebrate!

If you’ve been “too busy lately” to join in on the activities, please make some New Year’s resolutions to organize and prioritize and take a little time to “smell the roses” along the way. Remember, this is no dress rehearsal. There are no do overs. Jump on board now, you’ll be glad you did!

To kick off 2017, there will be another fantastic Hospitality Night, in conjunction with the Heart of America (KC) chapter, at the GIS in Orlando courtesy AGAIN of our generous corporate sponsors/Affiliate members. This event will be at the Millers Ale House on I-Drive with festivities starting at 6:00 PM on Wednesday, February 8th. Hope to see you and your significant other there.

From your MVGCSA, please have a safe and prosperous New Year!
The Workman GTX is adaptable for any task. Two or four-seat configurations come with bench or bucket seats. Front and rear attachment points for garbage cans, hose reels or walk spreaders free up the bed for more hauling capacity. 4 and 6-foot flat beds are also available.
In October I had the pleasure to represent the MVGCSA at the 2016 GCSAA Delegate Conference. This meeting brings together 82 delegates, representing our affiliated chapters across the country to GCSAA Headquarters in Lawrence, Kansas. In attendance are the chapter delegates, the GCSAA Board of Directors, GCSAA department leaders and staff members and GCSAA Board candidates. The meeting is a chance for the GCSAA Board and Department leaders to hear from the affiliated chapters on any issues that are affecting the association. The meeting is also the first chance for candidates that are running for the GCSAA Board to meet with the voting delegates and present their platforms. The meeting is organized and it moves along with a plethora of information. The job of the delegate is to listen, learn, and communicate with the GCSAA Board and GCSAA Department leaders. The good news is that the GCSAA Board and the GCSAA leaders are also very good listeners. This meeting is about an exchange of ideas, opinions and concerns, for the direction of the GCSAA. I would really like to complement our GCSAA Board for their dedication and their diligence in making the decisions that affect the membership.

This year’s meeting had several areas of focus: membership growth and engagement, advocacy and a BMP initiative for each state. I will start with membership growth and engagement. The GCSAA is searching for ways to grow our membership. Currently there are 17,000 members and the GCSAA staff has set a goal to reach 20,000 members by 2020. The GCSAA Board communicated that they would like to see more members volunteering for committees and task groups.

Government affairs and advocacy was again a hot topic at the meeting. There is so much going on with the advocacy efforts on our behalf in Washington D.C. that it would take another article to relate all of that information. So I will condense it to say that the GCSAA Director of Government Affairs, Chava (pronounced Hava) McKeel, is up there in D. C. fighting the bureaucrats on our behalf. The GCSAA is also considering the creation of a GCSAA Political Action Committee.

The next major topic at the meeting was the GCSAA’s Best Management Practices (BMP) Planning Guide and Template. This will be quite the undertaking by our association. There will be a BMP Seminar and Luncheon at the GIS in Orlando and after the 2017 GIS. In addition there will be training provided to Chapters and GCSAA Webcasts. The goal of the GCSAA is to have a Golf Course BMP Planning Guide for every state by the year 2020.

Greetings fellow turf cats, I don’t know about you, but I am glad to see the 2016 growing season come to an end. For me, a line in the Grateful Dead song, “Truckin”, summed up this year best…. “What a long strange trip it’s been”.

This year in the Mississippi Valley was definitely a strange one, and it seemed very long. Good riddance and it will be good to catch our breath with the winter season upon us.
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LIKE HIM OR NOT, Tiger Woods is good for golf. The 40 year old made his official “comeback” to the game during the first few days of December, playing in his own tournament (Hero World Challenge) to record ratings. His return blessed the likes of The Golf Channel and NBC with up to a 192% increase in viewership versus last year’s event. From what I’ve read, only the U.S. Open and Ryder Cup had higher ratings this season. Now consider, Tiger was ranked 898th prior to the Hero, and made a 248 spot leap following his 15th place finish (out of 17), leaving him in 650th worldwide. Eldrick was the 12th highest paid athlete in 2016 despite not playing in an event… dude made 45 million in endorsements alone! Impressive to say the least. Tiger is so good, he doesn’t even have to play to be the best!

LIKE HIM OR NOT, Donald Trump is good for golf. It’s true! On issues like WOTUS, overtime, minimum wage, and the EPA, “The Don” will likely be in favor of changes that will affect our industry in a positive manner. With that said, Mr. President Elect might want to cool his jets when making hubris comments related to who should or shouldn’t play golf, but that’s a whole other article. I make an effort daily to steer away from politics, especially where my friends, family and peers are concerned…and I plan to continue that tradition, even within the walls of Kick’s Korner. But I will add, that whatever your political views are, we should remember we are all humans first, and party lines should only be drawn as a way to help the cause that is America, and not separate us from one another… Go ‘Merica!

LIKE HIM OR NOT, Justin Timberlake is good for golf. I myself really like JT. He’s a good player, with a single digit handicap, who not only sponsors golf events but golf as game. Timberlake bought Big Creek Golf Course near his hometown in Memphis, TN. He resurrected the course where he learned to play, dragging it from the brink of bankruptcy. Today, the club renamed Mirimichi, a Native American word for “place of happy retreat”, is nationally recognized as one of the most eco-friendly properties in the country. He’s played with the likes of Michael Jordan, Fred Couples and Arnold Palmer to name a few, and enjoyed every minute of it. JT. is a serious golfer with swagger, bringing golf to a younger crowd and helping to grow the game.
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Kick’s Korner
(continued from page twelve)

LIKE HIM OR NOT, Bill Murray is good for golf. Get over your negative association with Carl Spackler and our profession, and be honest, I’ll bet Caddyshack tops almost everyone’s TOP 10 favorite movies list. Yes he’s a wild man, yes he does say’s crazy stuff while on the course, but all press is good press, right? The Murray Brothers host the annual Caddyshack Charity Golf Tournament which has raised over 4 million dollars for various charities during its 15 year run. And, if you’re looking for a great gift or something totally sweet for yourself, William Murray Golf Collection was just rated the #1 Christmas gift for men by Vogue Magazine. Gunga galunga!

LIKE HER OR NOT, Paige Spiranac is good for golf, and not too bad to look at either. In this day and age it’s difficult to get our youth outside and away from their smart phones. Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, Google +, Pinterest, You Tube, you name it, seem to be the only thing young (and some old) people do anymore. Insert Paige, whom by all accounts is a solid player, albeit no Annika Sorenstam, but a good player none the less. Her debut on Golf’s international stage has been a little controversial as she has been playing mostly on exemptions and invitations because of her social media popularity and not necessarily on her merit as a player. She has dealt with a barrage of cyber bullying as a result, while maintaining herself with poise. Now as Phenom’s go, she is not the poster child for world’s greatest female golfer, but she may be the reason many of today’s youth are playing and talking about golf. She is ALL over social media! She is reaching out to tomorrow’s potential players, owners, members, and vendors in a way I could only dream of. Yes, she wears tight fitting clothing while doing it, but so what! Obviously, Paige is something worth ranting about. When her Golf game catches up to her media game watch out!
LIKE IT OR NOT, and it bloody well pains me to say it, but, Dollar Spot is good for golf. That’s right coming from the man who has written pages worth of hatred directed at Dollar Spot studies, and chemicals produced (redundantly mind you). I’ve seen the error of my ways and admit it. Dollar spot good. Recently, a certain University professor, whose name I have changed for the purpose of this rant... let’s call him... Dr. Lee Miller (sorry Lee), brought me up to speed on why dollar spot is so widely used in studies. Obvious really, it’s relatively easy to inoculate and certainly better than giving your dog Parvo. Anyway, without it, and the fine people whose tireless efforts studying dollar spot and other pathogens, we probably wouldn’t have many of the products we use for a variety of other issues on our courses. My glass is raised to you Lee and for all you do for our Association.

LIKE US OR NOT, we’re good for golf. Everyday each one of us does what he or she thinks is best for our properties, for our members, for our customers for our staff and for our game...golf! A great game, which in some way has been good to all of us over the years. We cultivate, quite literally, a future for our game. Teaching the next generation the ways of the force so that they can pass along and improve upon it too. This time of year always reminds me how important family and friends are and, how much I enjoy eating. Our little family, the MVGCSA, is good for golf. I ask everyone to make a resolution as we draw near Auld Lang Syne, to make golf better. Get involved, join a committee, host an event, or simply reach out to someone who needs a hand.

This holiday season, try not to be discouraged by the emacity in the air at your local mall or the three hours you just spent waiting in line for the last must have toy for junior. I hope this Holiday Season finds you all well and is filled with peace and joy! Like him or not, Santa will be here soon!

Happy Holidays Everyone!

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Happy Holidays Everyone!
Graduate students in the Mizzou Turf Program were very successful in the Graduate Student Competition at the ASA-CSSA-SSSA annual meeting, held in Phoenix, AZ, November 6-9, 2016. This annual tri-society meeting, i.e. American Society of Agronomy, Crop Science and Soil Science, is the main academic conference for turf academics across the U.S. This year, 200+ papers were presented at the tri-society meeting in the C5, division of Turfgrass Science, and graduate students from different programs presented more than 100 papers in eight categories. The competition among graduate students takes into account research merit as well as presentation skills. Mizzou Ph.D. candidate Enzhan (Steve) Song, won 1st place in the poster competition of “Golf Course Management”. Steve’s presentation was entitled: “Effect of Repeated Application of Wetting Agents on Hydrophobicity of USGA Sand”. Michael Patterson, M.S. candidate, won 2nd place in the category of “Pest Management”. Michael’s presentation was entitled: “Effects of Selected Insecticides on Zoysiagrass Fairways with Billbugs”. Congratulations to all graduate students in the Mizzou Turf Program! This award recognizes their hard-work and dedication to their research! The Mizzou Turf Program is committed to pursuing turf research and providing the best possible training for our future turf scholars.

The Holiday Season is once again upon us, tis’ the season to be thankful and reflect upon this year’s happenings and start preparing for the upcoming year. I would first like to thank the Board of Directors for their warm welcome as my first year of serving comes due. Secondly, I would like to congratulate Jimmy Bucher on his promotion from Assistant Superintendent to Superintendent of the East Course at Norwood Hills CC. It was great working together with you Jimmy and I wish you the best as you take the next step in your career. Mike Smith, Assistant Superintendent at Fox Run has been nominated by our President to fill the open Assistant Liaison position. Welcome aboard Mike, the Board and I look forward to working with you and seeing what you bring to the table!!

Our 2016 Assistants Events began with an educational talk at Norwood Hills CC. Our second event was held at the Country Club of St. Albans where we played the Tavern Creek Course. The course was looking good and the weather was perfect!! Attendance was terrific with 51 players in the field!! It was one of the highest attended Assistants Events I have ever been to.

It was good to see more assistants getting involved this year and I hope the trend continues. Please make an effort to attend our events, the camaraderie is second to none and it is a great time to network. One of the best ways to move up in this industry is networking, so come on out and meet some new faces or see some you already know. I want to challenge all Assistants in the Valley this year to step out of your comfort zone a little bit, whether it’s a big step or small step so be it, you won’t know unless you try!!

The Assistants Golf Event for 2017 will be held at Old Warson CC. The date and details are still being determined but stay tuned to our website as well as keep an eye on your email for updates to come. I look forward to seeing you guys there!!

The Holiday Season is once again upon us, tis’ the season to be thankful and reflect upon this year’s happenings and start preparing for the upcoming year.
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The MVGCSA Shop Tour was well attended this year with over 110 people at Bellerive Country Club. Supreme Turf sponsored donuts and coffee, Syngenta sponsored lunch and Glen and Jerry Keeven sponsored drinks after the meeting. Great work by MVGCSA Board Members Tim Schwierjohn and Justen Patterson for organizing all of the education for this event…a brief review of the topics covered provided below:

**JOE WACHTER** – “R U Social” Joe chronicled his use of social media at Glen Echo Country Club. Blogging and social media sites have become the primary way Joe communicates with his membership. He states, “It has been a cheap and easy way to advertise for our facility and I spend less time in meetings because what we are doing on the golf course has been posted on my blog. Also, it increases my circle of influence especially with non-golfers. Even though they don’t play they see what is going on out on the golf course through my blog.”

**JOHN KOEHLER AND DANIEL EARLYWINE** – “Fertility Impact on Large Patch & Curative Disease Control on Greens” John spoke about timing of fungicides for large patch control on zoysia and also the impact of Nitrogen input based on timing and source. Recommendations for best control of large patch are ongoing. Dan talked about dollar spot testing that was done with a wide array of products both new and old. He also mentioned adding Pollinator Areas to golf courses referencing some success that Isaac Breuer has had at A.L. Gustin Golf Course in Columbia. Dan wrapped up by summarizing the improvements that have been made to the facilities at South Farm. Dan Earlywine and Dr. Lee Miller were presented with $5,000 from the MVGCSA for future turf research focusing on large patch, nematodes and dollar spot.

**XI XIONG** – “Use of Wetting Agent: Effects on Plant Available Water and Removal of Hydrophobic Organic Coatings” Xi presented plenty of information ranging from how wetting agents are impacting ball roll, firmness, infiltration, rewetting intervals, organic coatings on the soil particle, etc. The bottom line of her presentation is you must understand your soil type and how the particular wetting agent you are looking
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Redox TURF
Shop Tour Recap
(continued from page eighteen)

Xi Xiong was presented with $5,000 from the MVGCSA for future turf research focusing on wetting agents and billbugs.

**DR. DOUG SOLDAT** – “Practical Turfgrass Microbiology”
Doug had us all captivated at “fecal implants” and “the worst thing to happen to a hypochondriac was the internet.” The rest of his video conference really questioned the “can it move the dial” efficacy of humic substances, mycorrhizae and compost tea’s. He was not finger wagging but he recommended consistently using turf check plots to make sure the money you are spending is garnering the results that you want or are being claimed. Buyers beware and do your homework.

**TIM SCHWIERJOHN AND KHRIS RICKMAN** – “Life in the Floodplain” In my opinion the most riveting presentation of the day. Tim and Khris shared both pictures and stories of recent and past flooding on their respective properties. The talk was stomach turning but at the same time a display inspirational resiliency shown by these guys and their staffs. Great advice by both men on preaching thorough documentation of your shops and the inventories they house. Who knew these two guys were excellent speakers as well? Kudos Tim and Khris!
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Fall 2016 Equipment Techs Meeting
(continued from page six)

and maintenance of these small tools for granted as being basic simple stuff and easily replaceable. Nevertheless, there are always one or two that are “stumpers” and Stan’s presentation will certainly help us with those. If you think about it, the sum of all your small two stroke equipment represents a significant asset. We learned about many issues and failures and how to identify their causes. Diagnosis is the key to a successful repair. We learned that fuel issues are responsible for many problems. The big “takeaway” was probably proper selection, handling, and storage of today’s complex fuel blends. The group was well engaged and Stan did an outstanding job.

We enjoyed some pizza for lunch and took some time for fellowship. After the lunch break, Chuck Gast gave some insight on the new Equipment Technician classification and gave everyone an opportunity to sign up. With the introduction of this new classification, we will be developing even more educational and networking opportunities for techs. I gave everyone an update on what’s been happening at GCSAA. GCSAA is currently offering a free one year membership on new EM applications. I am on a task group to help in the development of educational opportunities for Equipment Managers, both online and at GIS. Applications for involvement in these task groups are available on GCSAA’s website, currently. We are also in the process of updating the EM Certificate Program, an optional program for members to establish a baseline of education and bolster their resumes. Finally, when everyone was tired of hearing my yap, we adjourned to the parking lot to check out some of the latest and greatest red, orange, and green iron.

We anticipate having another technician’s meeting in the spring. We are always looking for possible topics and presenters. We also encourage anyone interested in further technical and mechanical development to join us. Thank you MVGCSA for your support! Merry Christmas! Keep ‘em clean, Keep ‘em sharp, and Keep ‘em slick.

Recap of the 2016 GCSAA Delegate Conference
(continued from page ten)

I must relate how our association is so strong and well run because of the totally awesome people that work on our behalf at GCSAA Headquarters in Lawrence.

Scott Woodhead, Steve Randall and Leann Cooper are just a few of the people that do outstanding work on our behalf. And of course the GCSAA CEO, Mr. Rhett Evans, is a very amazing guy.

On Wednesday all of the delegates rode over to GCSAA headquarters in two buses. When we pulled up to the front door, Rhett had all of the GCSAA staff outside cheering and applauding us as we got off the bus and entered the building. It was sending us a message that the staff members at the GCSAA headquarters appreciate us and are there to support us and our association. Thank you Rhett and GCSAA staff for that amazing reception. It really felt like we are one big family.

As always if any member has any questions, concerns, or comments about the GCSAA initiatives and proposals, e-mail me or Chuck Gast and we will be glad to answer any questions.

Finally, when everyone was tired of hearing my yap, we adjourned to the parking lot to check out some of the latest and greatest red, orange, and green iron.
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# Calendar of Events

**February 4-9**  
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