

GCSAA Chapter Relations Meeting Update

by Bob Maibusch, CGCS, MGC

I recently (September 25, 26) attended the GCSAA Chapter Relations meeting as the representative of the MAGCS in Lawrence, Kansas. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss and reach some consensus of agreement among the chapter representatives, on some of the key issues that the Chapter Relations Planning Committee had identified in trying to strengthen ties between the affiliated chapters and GCSAA. Incidentally, MAGCS members Bruce Williams, and Roger Stewart were members of that resource committee, and Tommy Witt was also in attendance.

The two days of analysis covered many points, but kept one central theme, the GCSAA/Chapter Mission Statement which states that "GCSAA and its affiliated chapters shall work together to better serve their members and the golf course superintendents profession".

To that end, the GCSAA Board of Directors has established a Chapter Relations department at headquarters, and will be publishing a "Chapter Network News" newsletter. Additionally, a survey is being sent to chapter members (A, B, and C class) who are not currently members of the GCSAA to attempt to find out why they haven't elected to join the national.

Some other key points that the group had reached a consensus in supporting were that both the national and the chapters should work to demonstrate the benefits of membership in **both** groups to their members. That there be some consistency in the by-laws of affiliated chapters and GCSAA particularly in the areas of membership classes and voting privileges. That we should work toward achieving/maintaining a balanced process in GCSAA elections, and at some point in the future we would like to see every A, B, and C class member (superintendents and assistants) of an affiliated chapter also maintain membership in GCSAA.

It was agreed that this meeting should be an annual event. If there are any questions or concerns relating to the issues discussed or any other GCSAA/Chapter issues please feel free to contact myself, Roger Stewart, Bruce Williams, or Tommy Witt.



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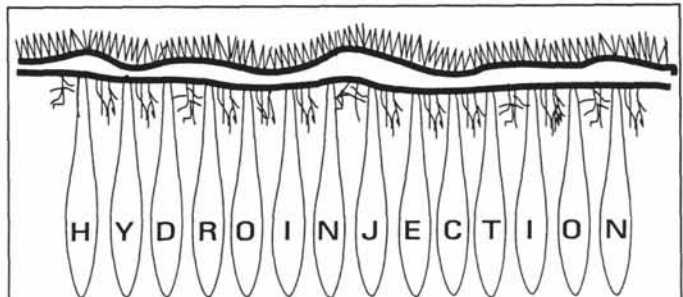
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