



The Bonnie Greensward



ASSOCIATION
OF GOLF COURSE
SUPERINTENDENTS

Our 88th Year

April 2012

5th Annual “War at the Shore” on Tap for April

It’s that time again. The PAGCS will head to the shore for our annual, friendly battle with our New Jersey counterparts. This year’s meeting takes place at Ballamor Golf Club on Thursday, April 19. Sign up early as this event is sure to sell out. Complete meeting information can be found on page 14 and registrations are being accepted online at www.pagcs.org. Don’t miss this annual fun event.



Outside Golf

Improving Our Communities

From Frustration to Friends: Building a Community

By Mychal Brown

Last summer, in the midst of yet another heat wave, I sat frustrated. My husband was working late again, and it was up to me to tell our sons that their father would not be home as promised. I needed an adult to talk to. It occurred to me that there had to be other women who were sitting home with the same frustrations, and I just had to find them.

Fast forward to today...

Now, wives from all over the world can and do converge on the “Wives of Turf” Facebook page to share their stories and vent their frustrations with the turf lifestyle. While most of us have never met in person, we are all like old friends, thanks, in no small part, to our shared experiences. The Wives of Turf

Continued on page 4.

Inside

President’s Message	2
Leadership Symposium	7
Member News	8
2012 GC&AA Golf Champ.	9
GC&AA Update	10
April Meeting Profiles	14
2012 Meeting Schedule	19





Wives of Turf, continued from page 1.

[WoT] community is a safe and encouraging place for the wives of men in the turf industry to go and know that they are not alone.



The Facebook page isn't our only home on the web -- during the winter, we launched

our official website! Visitors can learn more about the group, make a donation to our official charity [more on that later], and read about group news on our blog. The blog started as a way to introduce ourselves to the world and includes the WoT Spotlight. Wives volunteer to write an article based on ten questions that lets us get to know them. The blog is also a great way to get news out to our members. March 1st we held our 1st Annual Sip & Social at GIS in Las Vegas. We used the website to get information out about the event and thank our generous sponsors.

But Facebook is our roots of interaction. Each day, we post a "Question of the Day." They aren't always turf related, but they almost always result in a lot of conversation and laughter. Wives are also encouraged to post anything that might be on their minds or photos of life on the course. Our online interaction doesn't end with Facebook and our website though: you can also find WoT on Twitter. There is truly something online for every Wife of Turf.

Continued at top.



Wives of Turf founder, Mychal Brown (left), with her superintendent husband, Bill Brown

Making a difference...


After its inception, Wives of Turf quickly picked up steam in the industry, and we needed to decide in what direction to go. I wanted to make a difference in the lives I come in contact with, and I realized that Wives of Turf was as good as any place for me to start. We already had a large and active base, but how could we use our numbers to help make a difference?

Earlier this year, WoT partnered with the Wee One Foundation and made it our primary charity [see box on page five for more information on the foundation and our partnership]. Our husbands are passionate about this industry, and this foundation is devoted to helping turf families in need. It was a logical step to start helping the Wee One reach its goals and is our way of giving back to the industry that provides our husbands the opportunity to do what they love.

Validating the lifestyle....

Let's face it, turf is a lifestyle. Women who may be struggling with being a part of such a demanding lifestyle now have a resource, a [cyber] place to gather and feel like they are not alone. They have a group of women to bounce their thoughts off of and know that their feelings are valid. This group

Continued on next page.

 **Question of the Day: Do you have the nicest lawn on the block or the lawn that has your neighbors wondering what exactly it is your husband does?**

Pat Jones ... This could be WOT-sponsored contest. Pick the worst superintendent lawn in the nation and send a landscaping SWAT team in to do a makeover!





Question of the Day: Do you deserve an honorary Turfgrass degree because of all of your secondhand knowledge? Once again, thank you Emily Truman for the question.

Melissa Adams Sweet ... Snow mold, fairy ring, fertilizers ... You name it I have been quizzed on it!!! I love it when we are watching golf on TV and he rewinds it to see if I can see the dollar spot!!!

Wives of Turf, continued from page 4.

consists of wives who have lived the turf lifestyle for decades and others of us have only been a part of it for a few years. The advice that is offered has been invaluable to the women who need it.

People thank me for starting the group and for the work I do for the group, but, really, I feel like I should be thanking every single member just for being a part of it. I set out to make an impact and make a difference in the world around me, but I can't even begin to explain how much this endeavor has enriched my life. I look forward to the interaction each day. I smile at the comments I read. I look forward to the emails I receive. It's a win-win! It is my sincerest hope that Wives of Turf becomes a household name in the turf industry not only for being a fun and active group, but for the good we do in the industry.

Allison Bloodworth Smith *posted to Wives Of Turf...* **...How do you handle your hub's hectic schedule when you have a demanding job too? And kids? ... Any comments, suggestions?**

Laurie Manke Mitchell ... I don't know how wives of turf work full time! (and I would also think it would be very hard to find an employer that understands the stresses and demands of someone in the turf profession!)



Founded in 2004 to help Wayne Otto, CGCS, in his fight against cancer.

Named in honor of Wayne, who was nicknamed "The Wee One"

by his caddy on a golf trip to Scotland in 1985.

Since then Wee One has gifted over \$500,000 to all over the United States.

Wee One was started to assist golf course management professionals who incur overwhelming expenses due to medical hardship.

Visit weeone.org for more info.

WoT and Wee One Partnership:

- All proceeds from Sip & Social being donated to Wee One (over \$1000); all future extra sponsorship monies donated as well
- Donate button on WoT website allows visitors to support the foundation in their own name as a WoT participant
- Raise awareness for Wee One by introducing them to people who might not have heard of them before



2012 PAGCS Officers, Board of Directors and Staff
 Front row: (l to R) Tom Gosselin, Jay Parisien, CGCS, Scott Kroll. 2nd row: (l to r) Suanne Gardiner, Rob Nolek, Doug Rae, Mark Rubbo, CGCS, Kristen Liebsch. Back row: (l to r) Greg Hufner, Jon Urbanski, Jim Lynagh, Joe Candelore. Missing: Bill Brown, CGCS, Kris Givens, Mike Janzer, Derrick Wozniak

