## Table of Contents

**President’s Message**
Welcome message from PGMS® President Mark Feist. Page 4

**PGMS® School of Grounds Management Annual Conference**
See the schedule for the upcoming School of Grounds Management Annual Conference. Pages 8 - 11

**PGMS® Member Scholarship**
Need financial support to attend the PGMS® Annual Conference? Find out how to apply for a Member Scholarship. Page 12

**Interview with Adam Falkenmeyer**
Learn more about Adam Falkenmeyer and his career path. Page 18

**Doing More With Less at Duke University**
See how PGMS® members at Duke University creatively approached a problem area. Pages 22 - 23

**Mulch Volcanoes Hurt Trees**
See why PGMS® partner Bartlett Tree Services says mulch volcanoes hurt trees. Pages 24 - 25

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**PGMS® Partners In Professionalism**

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2 / FORUM

FORUM / 3
I am writing this message to you on July 5th having celebrated Independence Day with my family and neighbors in Leesburg, Virginia. Happy belated 4th! Early in the morning on July 4th I was driving through the main street in the historic Town of Leesburg and families were already gathering along the sidewalk in anticipation of the July 4th Parade which started at 10AM. However, it was only 8:30AM in the morning and I could see the anticipation already mounting as family and friends greeted each other with warm smiles and grateful hugs – yes, we are once again enjoying being together as a community of friends. At that moment I thanked God for seeing us through a difficult year. It was amazing to see so many happy faces.

I know this sounds melodramatic but occasionally even a President of a National organization like the Professional Grounds Management Society® (PGMS®) can share a personal thought with our members. After all I consider my PGMS® friends to be family. I hope you also experience the same sentiment when attending local branch or national events such as summer regional meetings or our upcoming annual conference in Louisville, Kentucky. I personally think our comradery is what makes PGMS® stand out among the other professional green industry organizations.

I am delighted to hear from other branches that we are transitioning to “in person” meetings and gatherings on a local level. On a national level registration for the “in person” 2021 PGMS® School of Grounds Management Annual Conference & GIE+EXPO, October 19-22, 2021, is open. The PGMS® Education Committee under the leadership of Bruce DeVrou put together an excellent education program along with a good mix of hands-on and networking opportunities. Check out the program details on our Website at PGMS.org. I encourage you to make your reservations now at the newly renovated Galt House as a limited number of rooms are available at the PGMS® special room rate. New this year, Member Scholarship Applications are being accepted until July 23rd for the 2021 PGMS® School of Grounds Management Annual Conference.

The 2021 Coast to Coast Challenge was an exciting way to keep in touch with our members from around the country during the month of June. The PGMS® webinar series continues July 21, 2021 with “Insight and Overview for Certified Arborist Preparation” presented by Lindsey Purcell, Urban Forest Specialist, Purdue University.

The Washington, DC Branch is already planning the details for the upcoming School of Grounds Management Summer Conference July 19-20, 2022, with an optional July 21st DC Branch Field Day at American University in Washington, DC. The education program, behind the scenes operational tours of the Smithsonian Institution, Architect of the Capitol and Botanic Gardens along with a private garden tour and dinner at Mount Vernon is shaping up to be an event worth putting on your to-do list now.

PGMS® is in the GROW business – growing you as a professional and growing our organization to support our membership. Take advantage of the many engagement opportunities that we offer through certifications, accreditation, School of Grounds Management education, Green Star Awards®, dynamic local branches, scholarships and leadership positions.

My best to you and your family for a safe and fun filled agenda of summer activities,
Interested in Getting Your CGT Certification?
The Certified Grounds Technician (CGT) certification is for those applicants who are directly involved with performing the day-to-day tasks of grounds maintenance. Details can be found at https://pgms.org/page/CertifiedGroundsTechnician.

Devin Kozicki, CGT
CGT 213
Bucks Community College
Newtown, Pennsylvania

David Lee, CGT
CGT 214
Richland School District
Richland, Washington

Jean Chant
Harrah’s Cherokee Valley River Casino

Kaleena Czajkowski
Chevy Chase Club

Justin Albertson
Greenskeeper Landscape & Exc, LLC

Mary Vosevich
University of Kentucky

Michael Barnes
University of Kentucky

Marcus Von Hertsenberg
Eastern University

Lindsay Romett
g2 turftools, inc.

Aysar Barbari
Didlake, Inc

Johnathon Matthews
University of Alabama in Huntsville

Tory Tollefson
The University of Alabama in Huntsville

Debra Koffron
City of Mobile Parks and Recreation

Jerome Leland
City of Mobile Parks and Recreation

Richard Reed
City of Mobile Parks and Recreation

Michael Peterson
City of Mobile Parks and Recreation

Thomas Holston
City of Mobile Parks and Recreation

Dexter Johnson
City of Mobile Parks and Recreation

Derek Wayne Pindexter
MTD Products

Josh Myers
TTU Grounds Maintenance

WELCOME

New Members since April 27, 2021

Charles Richardson, CGT
CGT 211
Richland School District
Richland, Washington

Brian Johnson, CGT
CGT 212
Richland School District
Richland, Washington

Bradley Kirkland
The University of Alabama in Huntsville

Danie I Alan Cooper
The University of Alabama in Huntsville

Michelle Blydenburg
Colorblends Wholesale Flowerbulbs

Danny Moskovitz
Colorblends Wholesale Flowerbulbs

Complete Your Scale Management Toolbox!
Scale insects are a common issue on almost every landscape and property. Effective scale control is dependent on a number of factors including proper identification of the scale insect, selecting the right solution, and applying that solution at the right time.

NEW! Proxite™ Insect Growth Regulator, a softer on beneficial insects and pollinators option for managing your scale pest issues!

NEW! Proxite™ Insect Growth Regulator

To learn more about scale management contact your Territory Manager or visit www.treecarescience.com

To learn more about scale management contact your Territory Manager or visit www.treecarescience.com

Josh Myers
TTU Grounds Maintenance

Know someone who isn’t a member? Help spread the word about joining PGMS®! Membership details can be found on the PGMS® website at www.pgms.org.
School of Grounds Management Management 
ANNUAL CONFERENCE & GIE+EXPO

October 19 – 22, 2021 | Louisville, KY

**SCHEDULE**

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 19**

7:30AM – 1:00PM
PGMS® Board of Directors Meeting*

11:30AM – 2:00PM
School of Grounds Management Registration Open

2:00PM – 4:00PM
Join PGMS® for a series of 20-30 minute sessions where we “dig” into a variety of the latest industry topics. Design your topic, involve your peers and grow your expertise. Submit your D.I.G. topic suggestions on the registration form.

4:45PM – 5:00PM
First Time Attendees’ Orientation
First time attending the School of Grounds Management? Join us for this brief orientation and opportunity to meet fellow first timers and connect with other PGMS® members.

5:00 – 7:00PM
Annual Welcoming Reception
PGMS® opens its Annual Conference with a Welcoming Reception for all conference participants. Renew old friendships and make new connections while enjoying light hors d’oeuvres and cocktails.

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20**

7:00AM – 8:30AM
EDUCATION SESSION 1: Breakfast of Champions
Ross Bernstein, Inspirational Business Speaker and Best-Selling Sports Author of “The Champion’s Code”

ROSS Bernstein, Inspirational Business Speaker and Best-Selling Sports Author of “The Champion’s Code”
This Keynote and how that relates to business environment. Ross Bernstein will explain why certain sports teams win consistently, based on the “Good-To-Great” concept. Learn first-hand how you can be a servant leader, create a culture of excellence, develop deeper relationships and provide extraordinary customer service within your organization. Ross’ core message is that people will do business with the people who they trust, who they like, who “get it” and who are true champions.

8:45AM – 10:15AM
EDUCATION SESSION 2: Choose One
A Tree Risk Management Plan: Don’t Leave Your Office Without One
Jennifer Gulick, Consulting Urban Forester, Urban Canopy Works
Tree risk management plans guide grounds managers to objectively consider risk and adopt a risk management process that is proportionate to the risk, recommends how to use staff and funding reasonably, and demonstrates that the duty of care is fulfilled.

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21**

7:00AM – 8:30AM
Annual PGMS® Business Meeting & Breakfast
- Election and Introduction of Officers and Directors
- Official reporting of the Society’s business from the Fall Board Meeting
- Recognition of those who earned their Certified Grounds Manager (CGM®) or Certified Grounds Technician certification in 2021
- Updates from the Branches
- Opportunity to ask questions of the PGMS® Board of Directors

Snow Management Panel - Communication, Training & Planning: “The Big Three” When Managing Snow and Ice
Panel Discussion Featuring:
Bill Butts, Vice-President of Business Development, Outdoor Pride Snow and Landscape
Seamus Dillon, Vice-President, Dykstra Landscape Management
Phil Richey, Grounds Manager, Purdue University
Managing snow and ice events is very time-sensitive and the level of communication with your team, client or administrative leadership will yield the best results and create safer properties. Training your staff to apply the appropriate products and quantity for the conditions is key, as is training staff to adjust “on the fly” depending on rapidly changing conditions and customer expectations. Creating a snow plan for your facility or site can improve your overall operational efficiency, keep budgets in check and reduce the injury rate for staff, pedestrians and motorists. Learn how to create a Snow Management Plan for your facility from this panel of experts who will offer varying perspectives.
9:45AM – 11:15AM
EDUCATION SESSION 5: Choose One
Improving Soil Health With Organics
Ryan Anderson, Community IPM Outreach Specialist, IPM Institute of North America
Healthy soil can greatly improve the performance of turfgrass fields. In this session, attendees will learn the key principles of soil health and how to apply these principles in a sports and recreational field management setting.

Annual Education Session
John Antonelli, Regional Sales Representative, Four Star Greenhouse/Proven Winners
This session will introduce new annuals for 2022 along with some tried and true plants. The program will discuss the industry overall and address the best ways to place orders for the Spring. Learn more about a high end clay container, which has a water holding tank underneath which can last 10-14 days between waterings.

11:15AM – 1:00PM
Lunch On Your Own & Explore the GIE+EXPO

1:00PM – 2:15PM
EDUCATION SESSION 6: Choose One
Pesticide Stewardship: Preserving Our Best Tools
Gretchen Pettis, PhD, Entomologist, Bio Safe Systems
Pesticide stewardship isn’t only about minimizing environmental and health risks, it also encompasses preserving the usefulness of currently available chemistries and preventing pesticide resistance. Biostatic agents play an important role in preventing insect, disease and herbicide resistance development and meeting the landscape manager’s goals for preserving environmental and human health. This program will address how to successfully incorporate biostatic agents into a traditional landscape pest management program or even replace synthetic chemistries altogether for improved pesticide stewardship.

Successful Establishment of Turfgrass Stands
Pamela Sherratt, Sports Turf Specialist, The Ohio State University
Learn how to maximize success when establishing turfgrass stands by seed or sod, including seedbed preparation, weed & disease control, and sound cultural practices that will result in a high-quality turfgrass stand.

2:30PM – 3:45PM
EDUCATION SESSION 7: Choose One
Benefits of Trees In Urban Environments
Kathleen Wolf, PhD, Research Social Scientist at the College of the Environment, University of Washington
The urban forest provides many environmental services, including energy savings and improved air quality. Recent research has revealed a surprisingly broad set of human health benefits, including reduced stress, better cardiovascular health, and faster healing in hospitals from the presence of urban trees.

Horticulture At The Zoo
Scott Beurlein, Manager, Botanical Garden Outreach, Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Gardens and award-winning garden writer for Horticulture Magazine and the GardenRant blogsite.

Gardens and landscapes are vital to the improvement of human well-being and our ecosystems. Diverse planting results in a more beautiful space, increasing depth, longevity and health.

6:00PM – 9:00PM
Awards Dinner–2021 Green Star Awards® and Professional Awards Presentation
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22
7:00AM – 8:30AM
EDUCATION SESSION 8
KEYNOTE PRESENTATION – “Bringing 3D Imaging to the Trees: A Technology Transfer Story between NASA and the Morton Arboretum”
Matt Melis, Program Element Manager, Game-Changing Development Program Office, NASA Glenn Research Center
Enjoy breakfast with a dynamic presentation and learn of a collaborative endeavor between NASA and the Morton Arboretum to use imaging technology, developed for the Space Shuttle Columbia Accident investigation, to capture the biomechanical behavior of trees. A summary of the Space Shuttle Columbia accident root cause will be presented, followed by how stereo image capture was used to gain insight into the way trees deform under load.

9:00AM – 10:30AM
Break & Travel to Kentucky Exposition Center for Education & GIE+EXPO

10:30AM – 11:45AM
EDUCATION SESSION 9: Choose One
How To Cultivate Landscape Champions in Your Organization
Jeff McManus, CGM, Lead Cultivation Officer, The Jeff McManus Group, Director of Landscape, Airport and Golf Services, University of Mississippi, author of “Growing Weeders Into Leaders”
For most managers in the grounds industry, growing great plants, turf, flowers, shrubs, and trees is a breeze. Ask that same grounds manager to grow great people who are motivated, inspired, and committed to being the best and that can be a little more difficult. Learn four proven techniques used in large, successful organizations for work in the grounds industry and how to create a plan to ‘up’ your workplace success.

Technology Journey To Higher Performance
Adam Lawer, Director of Campus Services, Infrastructure Planning and Facilities, Michigan State University
This program will discuss how to lead your organization’s technology journey and how to utilize the latest technologies to innovate your business model.

2:00 P.M.
Conference and GIE+EXPO concludes

Recruiting a new member helps to grow the Society and establish a better foundation for professionals in the green industry.

Questions about becoming a member? Visit our website at www.pgms.org or contact PGMS® at info@pgms.org.
Beginning in 2021, PGMS® will offer member scholarships to the School of Grounds Management Annual Conference. Applicants will be evaluated based on the following areas:

- Selection and Use of Scholarship Funds
- Budget & Financial Need
- Member Engagement
- Promotion of PGMS®
- Personal Professional Development or Recognition
- Scholarship Application
- Scholarship Letter

Members who are selected for a scholarship may receive funding on a full or partial basis based on the following parameters:

- Conference Registration ($349)
- Up to three (3) nights hotel ($715)
- Travel Stipend (up to $500)*

Members will be notified if they have been selected as a 2021 Scholarship recipient in mid-August. Commitment for use of scholarship funds is due by Wednesday, August 25. If a commitment is not received by that date, funds may be provided to another recipient.

*Please note that the travel stipend is a direct reimbursement for a flight or driving mileage and all flights must be purchased at the economy level. Any upgraded seat options are at the expense of the member.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

The 2021 Annual Conference Scholarship application is available from Monday, June 7 through Friday, July 23.

For more details and submit your application visit: https://pgms.org/page/MemberScholarship.

Toro® DXi Central Control Satellite is a single powerful hardware platform capable of supporting two powerful software packages, Rain Master® Laguna™ or Sentinel® Water Management Software (WMS). Loaded with features for precise water management.

Cloud-Based Data Management simplifies irrigation control with access from anywhere, anytime. Enhanced Features and new precision irrigation management capabilities make watering, scheduling and monitoring adaptable to site specific needs. And the Future Ready hardware platform can accommodate new innovations and changing site requirements quickly and economically.

Learn more at: www.toro.com/DXi
A few things you may have missed going on in the grounds management industry.

**HUNTER INDUSTRIES’ NINTH-ANNUAL CSR REPORT PRESENTS AMBITIOUS GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTION GOALS**

The global COVID-19 pandemic has impacted people everywhere in different ways. At Hunter Industries, it forced the company to modify business operations to keep employees safe while delivering on customer needs.

While the pandemic initially delayed the progress of the company’s Corporate Social Responsibility objectives, Hunter never lost sight of key performance targets. Throughout its operations, the company remains focused on finding a balance between people, planet, and profit.

Hunter’s ninth-annual Corporate Social Responsibility report offers a firsthand look at the goals that were set and the work that has been completed so far. The company’s successes include the creation of a CSR communication team, the development of a CSR-focused employee training program, and the implementation of energy and waste reduction projects. Hunter also established an ambitious target to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 50% by 2030.

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**A word from CEO Greg Hunter**

As Hunter Industries works through the challenges brought on by the ongoing pandemic, the company remains as committed as ever to safeguard the world for future generations.


**JOHN DEERE BRINGS THE FARM HOME WITH NEW MINECRAFT WORLD**

FarmCraft provides families an introduction to modern agriculture

MOLINE, Illinois, (June 8, 2021) — John Deere (NYSE: DE) is bringing the farm to young game enthusiasts with the latest version of FarmCraft, a Minecraft experience. Created by Blockworks in collaboration with John Deere, the Minecraft experience gives players an introduction to modern agriculture through the virtual use of machines, processes and decisions that go into farming today.

“John Deere places a significant focus on youth education as a means to increase the number of students interested in pursuing college degrees and careers in agriculture,” said Lauren Willis, Global Manager Brand Licensing. “Our team sees FarmCraft as a fun and unique way to introduce the industry to a whole new generation of young people.”

Available now within the Minecraft Marketplace, FarmCraft provides an added educational benefit of player interaction with an automated researcher who explains the FarmCraft world and scenarios as players explore and complete activities. Learn more about FarmCraft at https://www.minecraft.net/en-us/pdp?pid=ae4ef900-c215-498b-3ebe-1ef1556d9ab.

**MARK WARE JOINS RAINBOW AS AN ARBOROLOGIST**

Minnetonka, MN – June 14, 2021 — Mark Ware joined the Rainbow Treecare Scientific Advancements team on May 24, 2021, as an Arborologist covering the Northeast Region. Mark brings over ten years of experience in plant health care. As an Arborologist, Mark is responsible for providing PHC technical and application training to Rainbow’s clients and their crews. This includes providing technical support in diagnosing PHC issues, identifying a proper treatment strategy, researching and developing new protocols for Rainbow, and conducting educational talks.

“I have been very fortunate throughout my career to have learned from some of the best arborists in the region,” said Mark. “I am beyond excited to combine the knowledge and experience I have with the training and leadership of the RTSA team to further the professionalism, knowledge, and reputation of not only other arborists but the entire industry.”

Mark is a life-long resident of Pennsylvania and currently resides south of Philadelphia in Delaware County. In his free time, Mark enjoys photography, traveling, and camping.

“Mark will provide much-needed plant health care knowledge, training, and support to the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic regions,” said Patrick Anderson, Arborologist for Rainbow. “His experience in the green industry and in prescribing plant health care solutions will be invaluable to help Rainbow clients in getting predictable results for their treatments and programs.”

Mark holds an Associate of Specialized Technology Degree in Ornamental Horticulture from Williamson College of Mechanical Trades, Media, PA. For any plant health care technical support needs in the Northeast Region, you can contact Mark at 610-357-0235 or email (mware@treecarescience.com).

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**ECHO MEANS BUSINESS LAUNCHES UPGRADED PRO COMMUNITY**

April 20, 2021 - Chicago, Toronto - After serving the green industry pro community for six years through its website and mobile app, ECHO Means Business (echomeansbusiness.com), the green industry’s premier brand-neutral member community, is once again changing the game by offering a slew of new features and services to help pros build their businesses faster and network with other professionals more easily.

ECHO Means Business is rolling out a series of new features, starting with a new top-tier paid membership level that offers members access to exclusive savings on products and services pros use every day for business and personal use. Savings can be found on replacement parts, safety equipment, travel and entertainment, among many others. New products and services available at an exclusively discounted rate will be added each month.

Other new benefits include a Pro Networking series, which will broadcast live interviews and panel discussions a few times per month, and be available for replay to Pro Members. Members of the green industry can listen to and directly engage with leading experts, product manufacturers, and other pros. Topics vary from operating
a lawn care business, to marketing and advertising best practices, to hiring and managing employees.

On May 4, 2021, the community will be launching the next big benefit for members: Pro Resources, which will include customizable and downloadable marketing materials and operational templates that will help pros grow their businesses without having to hire expensive marketing professionals or agencies.

“This latest upgrade to the ECHO Means Business community represents ECHO’s ongoing commitment to supporting the growth and well-being of green industry professionals across North America, regardless of where their brand loyalty lies,” states Ken Osberg, Director of Marketing, ECHO Incorporated.

“Through this online community, live events, and the annual ECHO Means Business Social Media Lounge at the GIE+EXPO trade show, we’re proud to continue to sponsor and facilitate this growing community.”

Popular features that the community has come to rely on will continue, such as mentorship from a volunteer group of leading industry professionals (ECHO User Advisory Group), engaging peer-to-peer conversations in the pro forum, and weekly challenges and networking in the ECHO Means Business mobile app.

Access to the new Pro Member tier, providing access to the Pro Rewards, Pro Networking playback, and Pro Resources will be priced at $249.00/year; however, during the first 6 months, green industry pros can take advantage of a $100 introductory discount.

“The return on investment for Pro Members is clear,” said Sam Fiorella, Chief Strategist at Sensei Marketing Inc., the firm that manages the ECHO Means Business community. “By buying just one or two of the items our pros already buy every day through vendors on our community portal, their membership fee will be immediately covered.”

See ECHOMeansBusiness.com for more details on the ECHO User Advisory Group, the community, and all its benefits.

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**July 21, 2021**
- Webinar: “Insight and Overview for Certified Arborist Preparation”
  - Lindsey Purcell, Urban Forestry Specialist, Purdue University
  - Technical Management - Non-Horticulture

**September 15, 2021**
- Webinar: “Presenting Data More Effectively”
  - Bobbi Nance, CPRP, President, Recreation Results, LLC
  - Business and Financial Management

**November 17, 2021**
- Webinar: “Communication, Training & Planning: The "Big Three" When Managing Snow & Ice”
  - Panel Discussion
  - Technical Management - Non-Horticulture

**October 19 - 22, 2021**
- IN PERSON CONFERENCE
  - PGMS® School of Grounds Management Annual Conference & GIE+EXPO
  - Louisville, KY

Submit your events to us at info@pgms.org.

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### 5 HEAT TOLERANT NATIVARS FOR LANDSCAPES

It’s hot out there! If the properties your crew maintains are looking ragged from sustained high temperatures, it’s time to swap out some struggling plants with these five durable, heat tolerant nativars. They thrive in hot summers, shining with showy blooms and berries, plus colorful foliage that extends their season of interest well into autumn. Work with your local supplier today to reserve these exceptional cultivars for fall planting.

- **SCENTLANDIA®** Itea virginica
- **PIRADE WINDS®** Apache Rose® Panica virgatum
- **SUMMERIFIC®** Berry Awesome® Abutilon hybrid
- **Storm Cloud®** Amsonia tabernaemontana
- **BRANDYWINE™** Viburnum nudum

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**FIRST EDITIONS®**

GET TO KNOW ALL OUR HARDWORKING SHRUBS AND TREES AT FIRSTEDITIONSPLANTS.COM
Today I get to take a minute with a New York member of PGMS®, Adam Falkenmeyer. Adam was one of the first members I met when I flew into Louisville for my first School of Grounds Management and GIE+EXPO. Of course, the very important topic we discussed was where is the best food. Adam and the many other members he introduced me to that day was a great way to start my first Louisville experience.

Joe:
Adam great to catch up with you, for members that haven’t had the chance to meet you, can you fill us in on your background and experience in the industry?

Adam:
Great catching up with you also Joe. It has been way too long since we hung out last. For those that don’t know me I began my career in the green industry working on a golf course at a Resort Destination in Central New York. I moved my way up the ladder and when I left that place of employment, I was the Grounds Manager. I am currently working for our local municipality as the Building and Grounds Superintendent. I have no formal training but have learned so much through hard work and dedication. With that said I could not have done this with out the help from so many people both in my departments and friends that I have made with the help of PGMS®.

Joe:
From my introduction, members know that you have a knack for meeting new members and making them feel welcome. Did you have a similar experience with PGMS® when you first started, and do you think it’s a trait that we as the PGMS® organization tend to have with our membership?

Adam:
My first trip to Louisville I was very nervous as I was by myself in a big city. I live in the smallest city in New York. I was fortunate to be able to get there early and go on the tour of it think this was my first tour; I was able to do many of them Churchill downs. As I got on the bus, I picked a seat and kept my head down as to not make eye contact with anyone. That didn’t work, the late great Walt Bonvill sat down with me and struck up a conversation that lasted until then President Greg Nichols boarded and asked if there were any newbies on the bus. He came around and shook all of our hands and introduced himself. After that I made it my mission to put myself out there and talk with as many people as I could. This has created so many what I will call lifelong friendships. I still talk to many of these people quite often. Not only about the green industry but just life in general. So to answer your question YES this is a trait the PGMS® membership has for sure.

Joe:
Adam was the king of this for sure, it was because of Walt I went for my CGM. In going from a casino resort destination to a municipality, did your experiences or contacts with PGMS® help in the transition and what things do you think membership can benefit for people starting out in either of those settings?

Adam:
Moving careers was a big move for me. I had just under 20 years in the Resort industry. Going back to what I said earlier, the friends that are made trough PGMS® have been in similar situations. They are willing to talk to you about this and help ease your mind and coach you in your time of need, whether it be job change or what type of plant material to use. It doesn’t matter the problem someone out there has been in the same place you are in. If I could give one piece of advice to new members and even long-term members utilize the members of PGMS®. They are there to help you and in turn you may help them.

Joe:
Last question, after over a year of not being able to hold gatherings or meetings in person and providing education via webinars, what would you like to see PGMS® do in the future for its membership? How can we continue to promote the organization to nonmembers?

Adam:
It has certainly been a challenging year and a half. With that said I feel that PGMS® has done a great job trying to keep the members involved. All the webinars that were available was great. As far as promoting the Society, members need to get out and talk with people, just like you and I did at TGIFridays. Had you not already been with PGMS® I would have brought it up to you and asked if you were interested in joining. We as a membership need to put ourselves out there and drive the importance of this great organization to future members.

Joe:
Adam always great catching up with you and thank you again for your time. Hopefully we can all meet this October at our annual photo location and explore some more great food stops. Thanks Adam!

Adam:
You as well, Joe. I wonder if there is another Troll somewhere in that city. If I could say one more thing to members, utilize other members. There is a wealth of knowledge in this organization. Many of them have helped me along the way and I’m sure they will be willing to help you also. Hope to see you all soon.
WEED CONTROL
By: David Gardner, The Ohio State University | Speaking: Wednesday, October 20 | 10:30 - 11:45 am

I have been conducting research on weed management strategies in turfgrass since 1995. From the standpoint of new product introductions, whether they be new active ingredients, combinations of herbicides, or new formulations, this is one of the most exciting times for product innovation in turfgrass weed management. But, with that excitement comes the need to understand these new products and how best to utilize them.

To get the best results with your weed management program, it is important to apply the most effective herbicides and at the proper time of the year. My presentation at the PGRM® School of Grounds Management Annual Conference will focus on the importance of recognizing not only the identification of the weed, but also the life cycle so that the timing of application and the effectiveness of herbicides is optimized. I will review the many recently released active ingredients and combination products for the control of grasses, broadleaf weeds and sedges and offer suggestions for how to best incorporate them into your management program. The program will address concerns about the use of herbicides in managed landscapes and how to best avoid these issues. We will also discuss organic alternatives for grassy and broadleaf weed control.

THE RIGHT TOOLS FOR EVERY TASK.
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Susan McDaniel, the area building manager at Duke, approached me with concerns of potential tripping hazards. The roots of hundred year old Eastern Red Cedars were exposed and presented a threat to visitors and students. Compaction from foot traffic and construction vehicles prevented water from percolating into the soils. The water flowing downhill from previous construction laydown yards had washed away the topsoil from the roots of the trees and created erosion along the edge of the walk. Major soil remediation was ruled out due to the site being home to the roots of these historic Red Cedars.

The slope is severe enough to create a small current during heavy downpours. At the base of the landscape, there is a heavily trafficked sidewalk filled with students and visitors entering campus from the parking lot. There is a higher risk of potential injury due to the handicapped parking spaces in the immediate area.

Erosion can cause many problems. In this particular situation there is the potential for serious injury due to trips, falls and slipping. When soil and water combine on any hard surface, the soil turns to mud and becomes incredibly slippery.

It was clear that a resolution was in order. I first contacted Mark Hough (Duke University Landscape Architect), to let him know I wanted to change a landscape. We met at the site to observe the conditions and brainstorm a potential sustainable long-term solution. I first wanted to simply install woodchips from the sidewalk to the tree line. It would solve the erosion issues as well as remedy future slip and trip hazards. It would also store moisture for the trees. Mark challenged me to think of a more aesthetic and visually stimulating solution.

He suggested keeping as much green that I thought I could keep alive. He also mentioned that if I have a bed on one side of a walk filled with designer mulch (triple shredded hardwood mulch), I needed to have one on the opposite side as well. Based on a suggestion from Roger Conner, CGM, (Duke University Superintendent of Tree Maintenance) we also decided to add some new understory trees and flowering woody ornamentals. In an effort to follow Environmental Stewardship principles, we agreed to work in single shred woodchips to the landscape.

We ordered three Eastern Red Bud trees and laid out some flags to visualize the spacing. We also had roughly 30 Autumn Angle Azaleas that were failing in another location due to too much moisture. We replaced those plants with moisture loving Itea and Red Twig Dogwoods. In an effort to conserve resources, we then moved the failing Azaleas to this location. Off to the right, you can see one of the Red buds as well as a Dogwood we installed earlier in December.

The main reason I went ahead with the suffering Azaleas was because the new location has organic matter dropping from the Cedars that creates a natural acidic habitat for them to thrive. Due to the lack of irrigation, I purchased a product to help keep plant available moisture in the root ball called Soil Moist. The pellets are the size of a sea salt particle but swell to the size of a pea from rain water and hand irrigation. After the soil dries out, the pellet will release the water it stored back into the root ball buying us some additional time to provide supplemental irrigation. The pellets swell and shrink anywhere from three to five years.

In addition to the Soil Moist, we added slow release fertilizer and 20" round Tree Diapers. We pre-soaked the diapers to their maximum water holding capacity and then installed them around the base of the Azaleas before finishing off the planting with pine straw. We love the idea of a removable/reusable water source (after the plants root) that can also re-fill itself with rain water.

With a little planning and some great team work, we were able to eradicate slip and trip hazards as well as aesthetically improve the edge of the Chapel Gardens landscape using sustainable practices.
Mulching the ground beneath your trees and shrubs is one of the best practices for keeping trees healthy. However, you need to mulch properly for it to truly be beneficial. Never pile mulch against the tree or cover the tree’s root flare, where the trunk flares outward into the ground. Even though a mulch volcano, a large pile of mulch under a tree, is a commonly seen practice, it is not a good one. Mulch volcanoes harm trees! Mulch should be spread in a thin layer beneath the entire canopy.

One of the best materials to use as mulch is fresh wood chips. Wood chips contain bark, leaves and wood. This mixture is the most nutrient-rich option for the tree. It’s also okay to plant shrubs and perennials under the tree in the mulched area. When planting under trees, avoid solid masses of ground covers that hide buttress roots. Plant ground cover at least twelve inches away from tree trunks.

Mounded mulch and excessive ground cover can trap moisture against the tree’s bark. Stem tissues are not intended to remain moist. Excess moisture promotes the growth of fungal pathogens and disease. Too much mulch or ground cover can also conceal signs of an issue like the fruiting structures associated with root decay fungi.

How Mulch Helps
As you can see, proper mulching is relatively simple. It’s also effective in creating a healthy growing environment for trees. It eliminates competition between tree roots and turf as well as conserving soil moisture and moderating soil temperature. As mulch decomposes into the soil, it helps improve soil structure and reduce compaction.

Mulch beds mean there is less area of your lawn to mow. They also create a visible and physical barrier that can help prevent damage from mowers and trimmers to the tree trunk.

Even though the practice of piling mulch against the tree like a mountain or volcano has become so common that some professionals think it is acceptable or desirable, it is not. Just remember, mulch is one of the best things you can do for your trees, but only if you do it right!

WHAT’S GROWING ON WITH PGMS® MEMBERS THIS SUMMER?
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Submitted by Josh Walls, CGT
Richland Washington Baseball field

Submitted by Kevin Mercer, CGM
Denison University

Submitted by David Ott, CGM
Harrah’s Cherokee Valley River Casino

Submitted by Joe Kovolyan, CGM
PNNL

Submitted by Eric Pardue, CGT
WV State Capitol Complex Grounds

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SHORT TERM OPPORTUNITIES

Mentor – Annual Conference: Attend the First Timers’ Orientation and welcome our newest attendees.

Present at the PGMS® School of Grounds Management: Submit your proposal for an education session.

Scholarship Committee: Help review applicants for one of PGMS’ scholarships.

Mentor – Certified Grounds Manager Candidate: Serve as a mentor for a CGM® Candidate or volunteer to review a Candidate’s Professional Grounds Manager Evaluation portfolio.

Green Star Awards® – Reviewer: Assist in selecting awards recipients.

MICRO-VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

Blog Posts: PGMS® has a blog in our member portal and on our website. Become a guest writer.

Newsletter Articles: PGMS® has a bi-monthly newsletter, The Forum, and we are always looking for valuable articles to share with our members and friends.

Paparazzi: PGMS® has two large events each year and we can always use your help with photographs at our conferences. If you would like to be the designated photographer at one of our events, let us know and we will offer you 25% off your registration.

Branch Development/Leadership: One of the greatest member benefits is networking. Contact PGMS® for details on developing a branch in your area.

National Committees: Opportunities are available on the Membership, Marketing, and Education Committees.

LONG TERM OPPORTUNITIES

Host the School of Grounds Management Summer Conference: PGMS® brings education and exclusive tours to a new city each Summer.

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PGMS® enjoyed sharing Pollinator facts with you on social media for Pollinator Week 2021. In case you missed them visit the PGMS® Facebook and Instagram pages and remember to support pollinators all year not just during pollinator week. Thank you to Kevin Mercer, CGM for sharing some pollinator pictures from Denison University.

POLLINATOR WEEK 2021

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A LOOK BACK AT PGMS® IN JULY 1980

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S CORNER

It is now drawing close for our Annual Conference in Kansas City. We can use the support of all our members in many ways. First and foremost is your attendance at the Conference. Make your plans to be at the Hilton Plaza Inn November 2-7.

We also need your help in obtaining more exhibitors for our Trade Show. If you have a supplier who you think would be interested in the Trade Show, please let him know of this opportunity with his name and address.

As you can see, there are many ways that you can help make our 1980 Annual Conference and Trade Show a success.

BRANCH NEWS:

D.C. Branch: The Branch met on Thursday, July 10, at 7:30 p.m. at the National Zoo on Connecticut Avenue in Washington. The speaker for this joint meeting with the Landscape Architects Association of Greater Washington was Dr. Theodore Reed, Director of the National Zoo.

Free State Branch: The Branch met on Wednesday, July 9, at 7:30 p.m. in the maintenance shop of the Howard County Parks Department in Ellicott City, Maryland. Ed Goldstein, owner of Precipitation, Inc., Germantown, spoke on "Irrigation.

New England Branch: Branch members met at the Hogan Campus Center, Room 421, at the College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, Massachusetts, at 6:30 p.m. on June 30. The program included a film, "Dead and Contamination Brought Home from Work."

Princeton Branch: The Branch has officially set up a University Center in Princeton to be awarded annually to a Horticulture major continuing at a 4-year college. Current plans include the annual summer picnic and their first trip to Longwood Gardens. Meetings during the past months have included: a post review and update presented by Ken Law of the New Jersey Department of Agriculture, a talk by William Fiener on propagation techniques during a session at Princeton Nurseries, and an outstanding presentation on "Round-Up" by Jim Samis of Monsanto.

Southern Ohio Branch: Members met on Tuesday, June 17, at 7:30 p.m. at Joe Motz's Maintenance in Newton, Ohio. The program included a round table discussion, plus a tour of the Motz maintenance equipment. Plans were finalized for the Green Industry Field Day held on June 20 at Arlington Memorial Gardens in Cincinnati. Leaders furnishing the know-how for the Field Day included Bob Davis, Tom Smith, Ed Friedhoff, Dr. Elton Smith, Mr. Butcher & Son, Madison Tree Service, Joe Motz, and Dave Bowser.

Westchester Branch: The Branch met on Thursday, June 19, at 7:30 p.m. at the Conservatory of the New York Botanical Gardens. Arthur Ode was host for the meeting, which included a tour of the Rose Garden, the Perennial Garden, and other areas of this showplace of one of the world's major cities. Exhibition classes for the Branch were begun in the following classes: 1) Terrace/Patio potted planting (5 plants or less of each variety), 2) Vase of roses (less than 12 blooms), and 3) Suitable bouquet for a wedding party.

GROUND MANAGEMENT FORUM

Allan Shulder .................................................................................................................. Editor
Jim Gilbons ..................................................................................................................... Chairman

Editorial and Business Office
7 Church Lane
Pikesville, Maryland 21208

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

A LOOK BACK AT PGMS® IN JULY 1980

- BLACK VINE WEEVIL
- SCALE CRAWLERS
- MAPLE BLADDER GALLS

GASOHOL IN SMALL ENGINES

GASOHOL has become widely available recently. Many ground managers no doubt are considering the use of gasohol in small engines. Gasohol consists of a mixture of 90% gasoline and 10% methyl alcohol with some water. The water and alcohol combine to form acid which corrodes metal and eats rubber and plastic parts. This problem is particularly severe during extended periods of storage. Briggs and Stratton does not recommend the use of gasohol or unleaded gasoline because of adverse effects on engine valve life.

COMING EVENTS AND SEMINARS:

Lawn, Garden Outdoor Living: Division of National Hardware Store, McCormick Plaza, Chicago, IL, August 14-15, Contact National Hardware Show, Charles Shlott, 331 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10017. (212) 682-4860.

8th Annual Garden Industry of America Conference and Trade Show: Convention Center, Baltimore, MD, September 12-14, Contact GIA Conference & Trade Show, Box 1092, Minneapolis, MN 55440. (612) 374-5200.

Professional Grounds Management Society Annual Conference and Trade Show: November 2-5, Hilton Plaza Inn, Kansas City, MO. Contact Allan Shulder, Executive Director, Church Lane, Pikesville, MD 21208. (301) 563-9742.
Classifieds

Find up-to-date job listings on our website at www.pgms.org and click on Career Center.

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Maintenance Groundskeeper / Porter

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The Maintenance Groundskeeper is responsible for performing general maintenance duties and overall upkeep of the community landscape and exterior of the property. Areas to maintain include: leasing office and clubhouse, pool area, parking lot and common areas, recreation areas, building exteriors, trash removal and vacant apartments. The Maintenance Groundskeeper will work with the Business Manager and Maintenance Supervisor coordinating and managing all necessary project resources from start to finish on time and within budget in a highly collaborative environment. For information on how to apply visit: https://pgms.org/networking/apply_now.aspx?view=2&id=661389.
The Professional Grounds Management Society® (PGMS®) is an individual membership society of grounds professionals advancing the grounds management profession through education and professional development.

**Key membership benefits include:** Annual conference and Green Industry Expo, bi-monthly newsletter, membership certificate, certification programs (Certified Grounds Manager and Certified Grounds Technician), free educational manuals, local branch meetings, “Who's Who in Grounds Management” membership directory, site awards, free industry magazine subscriptions, etc.

The Society believes that there are four (4) essentials to remaining a professional in the industry:

1. Being a member of the appropriate membership organization or organizations.
2. Attending educational conferences in the field.
3. Reading industry publications.
4. Becoming certified at the level you wish to operate.

**Other Key facts About PGMS®:**

- It is the only membership organization for institutional grounds managers.
- It is the only membership organization serving the breadth of the service arm of the Green Industry which professionals can join as individuals.
- It is the oldest individual membership organization for grounds professionals.
- For membership categories and to sign up as a member please visit [https://pgms.org/page/Membership](https://pgms.org/page/Membership).

We offer Green Industry Suppliers the opportunity to meet their marketing needs by becoming a PGMS® Partner in Professionalism. For more information visit [https://pgms.org/page/Partners](https://pgms.org/page/Partners).