This week’s story is really all about Mother Nature in its most raw and vulnerable way. We see her in all her beauty every day, but really never acknowledge it. We drive by them or walk under them and don’t really give it a second thought. We are so used to seeing trees all around us, we don’t even think about them taking in carbon dioxide and releasing oxygen for us to breathe.

They provide shelter, shade, fuel for fire, wood for building your homes. But when they are sick or damaged, you need a professional that knows his stuff in order to make them better for the future. And of course, whom other than Felici “Phil” Giordano, and his son Nick, both of Grade A Tree Care Services.

Phil grew up in South KC, and began working for other tree service company at a young age, doing that for more than 16 years. He began getting asked to trim some trees on the weekend (neighbors, cousins, etc., and earned a fair amount that he tucked away for a “rainy day”.

From that, he began a small company on the side, and continued. In Oct. 1996, we had what they called the October Surprise – record breaking snows that hit while leaves were still on the limbs of trees. Thousands of trees cracked from the heavy wet snow, leaving thousands without power, and many with tons of tree limbs blocking access to their homes, and damaging cars and trucks. That’s when Grade A Tree began !!!

Phil has steadily grown Grade A into a strong business in today’s KC market, and in 2014, they purchased a competitor and moved to Martin City. Their team now is one of the best!

This past 18 months has not come without challenges, both business and personal. The hardest battle he has won was watching his son, Nick, work through amazing medical issues and eventually getting called to tell Nick they found a match for him to get a complete lung transplant, as you know not an easy task to take on. But God is grand, and to see Nick last week with Phil showed all of what skilled doctors, lots of prayer, and a miracle here and there can accomplish. Glad you’re back Nick!

Phil reiterated what many of us already knew – that the support team offered by being a Prospector has been the impetus for his continued growth and success. Phil recalled so many great and memorable conversations with Mike Darby, a bit of a mentor for him. He always had a lot of support from Mike.

One of their newest pieces of equipment they purchased is a gal named “Charlotte” – a phenomenal top of the line tree trimming apparatus they use to reach nearly 80 feet in the air to safely trim and treat their client’s trees and shrubs. There are only a handful of these in the entire city.

Phil said that fall and winter is a better time to have your trees trimmed than spring because in spring, the sap is coming back into the tree, and it is better for them in early fall or winter.

Phil is back on the Board of Directors after a brief hiatus and we look for great things coming from him and the 2018 group in future months. Thank you Phil for all you do for the Prospectors and the great causes you support.
UPCOMING
SPEAKERS
SCHEDULE

Here is a list of our upcoming speakers. Please note some events are evenings or away from Deer Creek CC.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN JOINING PROSPECTORS?
Give Sean Felton, our Membership Chairman a call at 816-258-3774 or email at DrSean.Felton@gmail.com before you visit our group so we can make sure there are no category conflicts with our current members.

Dec. 7 – Neil Spencer of Lighthouse Auto Sales at Deer Creek CC.
Dec. 14 – Annual White Elephant Gift Exchange at Deer Creek CC.
Dec. 21 – NO MEETING – CHRISTMAS WEEK
Dec. 28 – NO MEETING – NEW YEARS WEEK
Jan. 4th – State of the Club Meeting at Deer Creek CC.
Jan. 11th - TBA

IMPORTANT REMINDER – ESPECIALLY FOR NEW MEMBERS:--

WINTER STORM POLICY
If the Shawnee Mission School District cancels classes on the Thursday of our meeting, there will be NO MEETING THAT DAY.

Please check late the night before or early the morning of our meeting date for school cancellations.
Trivia Question:-

Who stopped Bjorn Borg’s string of Wimbledon singles titles at five?

QUOTES OF THE WEEK

I could start my Christmas shopping now... but what would I do on Christmas Eve???

Clayton Moore played the role of The Lone Ranger in both television and in the movies.

Con’t. From Page 1.......
It’s Give-A-Bear Time Again !!! – This year like in the past there is a huge display of happiness and kindness when Kevin York along with family and friends make their “special deliveries” to the people of Phoenix Family residences. This year the actual delivery takes place on Sat. / Sun. Dec. 18th and 19th. If you wish to volunteer and help in some way, contact Kevin at 913-747-9015.

US Marines Toys for Tots – On Dec. 14th, the day of our Annual White Elephant Gift Exchange, besides bringing a crazy or weird gift to exchange, why not help support a great cause that Ed Hutchison of Frechin Pest Control is promoting. Bring an unwrapped brand new toy on Dec. 14th and Ed will make sure they will get delivered. Maybe we might even have a Marine present that day. Semper Fi, and Thanks Ed for all you do.

From Christmas Party at The Brass on Baltimore, KCMO

“Sweet Caroline” Tribute to 40 Years of Prospectors
Your Prospector of the Year for 2017
Sheri Mortko

All the Ladies at Christmas Party...

40 years of members burned into cedar wood forever...
Prospector's Breakfast Club
Attendance and Thank You's
Meeting Date: Nov. 30, 2017

PLEASE PLACE "X" IN FRONT OF NAME IF ATTENDING MEETING

- Adams, Linda
- Ailrey, Douglas
- Alexander, Jay
- Alexander, Terry
- Alexander, Rich
- Alexander, Adam
- Ashurst, Chase & Amy
- Beckner, Pat
- Bell, Jim
- Bell, Dan
- Boehringer, Kevin
- Bovard, Zach
- Brosset, Mike
- Brown, Erin
- Brown, Bryan
- Brown, Chris P.
- Cussen, Kathleen
- Dayal, Vivek
- Dayal, Rich S.
- Dayal, Dave F.
- Derrico, David
- Douglas, Kyle
- Eckinger, Bill
- Eidson, Ken
- Emerson, Bill
- Felton, Dr. Sean
- Felton, Ken
- Felton, Dr. Matt
- Felton, Dr. M.
- Ford, Matt
- Funk, John
- Funk, Steve
- Funk, Kevin
- Jacobs, Linda
- Jacobs, Kathy
- Jacobs, mounts
- Jacobs, Dr. Leif
PLEASE PLACE "X" IN FRONT OF NAME IF ATTENDING MEETING

✓ Hessner, Dave

✓ Foster, Rod

✔ Full, Kevin

✓ Goodheart, Alan

✓ Bell, Sina

✓ Mortko, Ed

✓ Pickering, Chris

✓ Pickering, Margot

✓ Hardin, Das

✓ Hawkins, Darryl

✓ Heriford, Alan

✓ Hobbs, Derek

✓ Holk, Dan

✓ Holland, Ed

✓ Hutchison, Ed

✓ Kopplin, Mike

✓ Mortko, Sheri

✓ O'Bryan, Cliff

✓ Paperi, Matt

✓ Pickering, Chris

✓ Pickering, Margot

✓ Rapp, Bryan
PLEASE PLACE “X” IN FRONT OF NAME IF ATTENDING MEETING

Runyan, Joe

Sewell, Amber

Lease, Alan H.

Morgan, Cliff O.

McKee, Dr. Colin

Munro, John

Simpson, Brownie

Spencer, Neil

Stein, Jeremy

Terstiepe, Janine

Terstiepe, Jerri

Thornson, Chad

Twigg, Brad

Webb, Tyler

Wilkinson, Ann

Wolterton, Rick

York, Kevin

Sirm, Richard

Cochran, Frederick

Weller, Pat

Wells, Wholey

Guests

Name | Name of Business | Your Position (owner, sales, etc.)
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