Granger, others tackle new challenges

POMPANO BEACH, Fla. — Palm-Aire Country Club has named Fred Granger director of golf course maintenance. With 94 holes of golf courses (plus a four-hole practice loop), Palm-Aire is the second-largest golf operation in one location in Florida.

From 1993 until Granger recently joined the Palm-Aire team, he was director of golf course maintenance at Turnberry Isle in Miami. A certified golf course superintendent, Granger holds degrees in ornamental horticulture and in business management.

For the first decade of his career, Granger was superintendent at the private Laguna Hills Golf Club in Southern California. From there he spent four years in Vero Beach, working on the two courses at Grand Harbor with golf course architects Pete Dye and Joe Lee.

LA QUINTA, Calif.—PGA West has appointed Eric von Hofen as golf superintendent, responsible for the Arnold Palmer, Jack Nicklaus and Tom Weiskopf private courses.

In January von Hofen oversaw preparation and supervision of the Bob Hope Chrysler Classic, which took place on the Arnold Palmer Private Course. He helped open the new Greg Norman Course in December.

Prior to his appointment, von Hofen was the golf course and grounds manager at the Naples (Fla.) National Golf Club. He has also been superintendent to PGA National Golf Club in Palm Beach, Doral Golf Resort & Spa in Miami, and John’s Island Club in Vero Beach.

A graduate of Ohio State University’s Agricultural Technical Institute, von Hofen is a Class A member of both the South Florida Golf Course Superintendent Association and the Golf Course Superintendent Association of America.

CALABASAS, Calif. — Eric Bescoby has been appointed to the new position of director of golf maintenance for Environmental Golf.

Bescoby will manage the business unit dedicated to maintenance at the firm’s contracted courses and will begin efforts to increase the overall golf maintenance business.

Prior to joining Environmental Golf, Bescoby was associated with Rain Bird Sprinkler Manufacturing Corp. for 11 years.
Moving on
Continued from previous page as superintendent. Prior to his stint at Shalimar, Burchfield worked at, and served as a member of the construction staff at The Raven Golf Club in Phoenix.

HILLSBOROUGH, N.J. — Trent J. Inman has joined the new Royce Brook Golf Club as the head superintendent. Inman will supervise the overall maintenance and conditioning programs for the golf courses, including overseeing the grow-in phase of the fescue on the West Course and native wild grasses on the East Course, as they continue to mature following their opening last May.

A Purdue University graduate, Inman was the assistant golf course and property manager at Caves Valley Golf Club in Owings, Md.

BLOUNT COUNTY, Ala. — Mark Langer has been hired by Limestone Springs, Ltd., to be superintendent at the community’s new 18-hole golf course designed by former U.S. Open champion Jerry Pate.

Langer holds a degree in agronomy, with specialization in turfgrass management, from Mississippi State University.

Prior to accepting the position at Limestone Springs, he was head superintendent for the east course at Birmingham Country Club.


For the past two years, Scamehorn has been the superintendent at Lost Key Golf Club in Perdido Key, Fla. Prior to that, he was the assistant superintendent at Falcon’s Fire Golf Club in Kissimmee, Fla. Both clubs are managed by Western Golf Properties, Inc.

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LA QUINTA, Calif. — Marc Sundeen, Rancho La Quinta’s assistant golf course superintendent for 18 months, has assumed the head post for the community’s Turf Maintenance Department.

A graduate of Penn State’s Turfgrass Management Program, Sundeen has nearly 10 years of experience, including managerial roles at Pebble Beach and The Vintage Club. He also holds degrees in psychology and art history from the University of Minnesota.

Cook offering short courses
NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J. — Cook College’s Office of Continuing Professional Education is offering short courses to help people enhance their knowledge and business opportunities in the green industry.

The “Advanced Topics in Professional Grounds Maintenance” series will offer “Turf Diseases,” scheduled for Feb. 10, and “Managing Turf and Landscape Weeds,” scheduled for March 17-18. Both classes will meet from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on the Cook/Douglass Campus here.

The “Advanced Topics in Professional Grounds Maintenance: Turf Diseases” short course will help define diagnostic skills. This one-day program explores disease management issues in landscape turf, while introducing advanced concepts in turfgrass pathology. Topics will include troubleshooting problems in landscape turf; the impact of the turf microclimate on disease; fungal classification and identification; fungicide selection and use; biological control issues; and turf diseases that may have been missed.

The “Advanced Topics in Professional Grounds Maintenance: Managing Turf and Landscape Weeds” short course will help landscape professionals learn to manage common and difficult weeds in the tri-state area. Many costly and unsightly weed problems can be avoided — or at least minimized — with a little planning and knowledge. Participants will develop their own weed-control program, which will address specific weed problems they routinely encounter.

For more information or to register, please call the Office of Continuing Professional Education at 732-932-9271.

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The “Advanced Topics in Professional Grounds Maintenance: Managing Turf and Landscape Weeds” short course will help landscape professionals learn to manage common and difficult weeds in the tri-state area. Many costly and unsightly weed problems can be avoided — or at least minimized — with a little planning and knowledge. Participants will develop their own weed-control program, which will address specific weed problems they routinely encounter.

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