GCSAA Membership Reaches All-Time High of 19,000

Continued strong growth in the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) has pushed the Association's membership total to more than 19,000 according to figures processed by the GCSAA member/chapter services department.

Since January 1994, GCSAA membership has grown 46 percent (up from 13,000), representing all regions of the nation, and 65 foreign countries and all categories of membership.

“This sustained and strong growth confirms that golf course management professionals value membership in the association,” said GCSAA President George Renault III, certified golf course superintendent at Burning Tree Club in Bethesda, Md. “The golf course maintenance industry faces constant change; therefore, those who pursue such a career must have the resources that allow them to perform at a high level. It is GCSAA’s goal to provide its members the education, representation and information necessary to achieve success.”

Membership records indicate GCSAA has an annual retention rate of 92 percent. The average rate for associations is 86 percent.

Since 1926, GCSAA has been the leading professional association for men and women who manage and maintain golf facilities in the United States and worldwide. From its headquarters in Lawrence, Kansas, the association provides education, information and representation to more than 19,000 individual members from more than 65 countries. GCSAA’s mission is to serve its members, advance their profession and enrich the quality of golf and its environment.

Novartis Offers Total Turf Program

Novartis Turf & Ornamental Products, this year’s sponsor of the Golf Course Superintendents Institute, is the result of a merger between the former Ciba Turf and Ornamental and Sandoz Agro Inc. They represent a leading edge, environmentally responsible and reliable supplier of plant protection products for the turfgrass industry. Novartis offers a total turf program of leading edge products designed to help you protect and maintain your course throughout the year. Primo, Plant Growth regulator, Barricade preemergent herbicide, Banner Maxx and Subdue fungicides are just a few examples of the products they have developed as a result of their extensive research and development program.

The name Novartis means “new skills” and appropriately describes their commitment to bringing you new innovative products, technologies and services that will better help you achieve your maintenance and business goals.

A leader in disease, insect and weed control for golf courses, Novartis combines effective products with technical support and service. For more information on the full line of Novartis products contact Dave Warman, Regional Sales Manager, at (503) 697-4368 or, look for Dave at the Institute Trade Show.

Naumann’s NorCal News

John Jorgensen has left Riverside Golf Course in Coyote to become the new Superintendent at Spanos Park Golf & CC in Stockton. Replacing John at Riverside GC is Tom Estrada. Tom has been the Superintendent at South Hills CC in Covina prior to his move back to Northern California. Bob Franchine is the new Superintendent at San Geronimo Golf Club. Bob has been in Washington State as a Superintendent before coming back to NC. Bob is replacing Steven Leas.

Joel Ahern from San Jose Country Club, is extremely busy these days. His club is replacing all of the bunkers and green surrounds.

Mike Garvale, Superintendent at Palo Alto Hills, is now completing the rebuilding and replacement of some greens, bunkers, traps and fairways. This was completed while installing a new irrigation system, rebuilding the driving range and adding a lake on 18. To tell you how busy he was this summer, his handicap went up to 3.