



Tim Greenwald and Rancho Cañada to Host Holiday Golf *By: En Williams, CGCS*



Rancho Cañada has returned to host the Holiday golf event for the year 2000. The club has been a terrific host in the past. The holiday event was played there for 19 consecutive years from 1973 to 1991.

The tournament is officially named after Rancho's former Superintendent, Larry Lloyd, who passed away in 1985. Larry was instrumental in hosting the annual holiday golf and did whatever was needed to help the association. Also to his credit, Larry was the actual inventor of one of today's equipment mainstays, the turf groomer. He put together the first set in the maintenance shop at Rancho. The tournament has had some great history and has provided a season ending getaway for GCSANC members. One of the more touching stories was when Larry's brother Paul Lloyd won the event in 1985, the year following Larry's death.

Rancho Cañada Golf Course consists of two 18-

hole courses, the East and the West, both laid out by architect Robert Dean Putnam. The actual course design was a product of the creative skills of owner Nick Lombardo and Larry Lloyd, Bob Costa, CGCS even got involved in 1998 with the re-design of the 12th hole on the East course that was devastated by the El Niño floods. The semi-private facility lies about a mile inland from Highway 1 in the beautiful Carmel Valley.

The courses border the beautiful Santa Lucia Mountains and sit abreast the Carmel River. The tight tree lined fairways make for a challenging golf experience. This year's event will be contested on the West course that plays at 6095 yards from the regular tees and to a par of 71.

Tim Greenwald is the superintendent and has been through a lot in his 18 years at Rancho Cañada. He has seen three major floods take their toll on the 36-hole layout in his tenure. Tim's been involved every time working months of long hours trying to restore the damage. The 1998 flood washed away 80,000 cubic yards of soil from the 12th fairway alone and covered 60% of the course in silt. Tim quips, "It made me realize that you can never underestimate Mother Nature. No matter how devastating things were, I still felt like nothing was impossible. As a benefit, I've sure gotten pretty good on the dozer over

the years."

Tim's staff is surprisingly small in number. He has only 13 full-time golf course workers to cover the 246 acres of maintained turf. He does share some gardeners with Laguna Seca and occasionally brings in part-timers for special projects. Currently the staff is constructing target greens on the practice facility. Asked how he gets it done with limited human resources, Tim stresses, "I strive to keep a positive attitude among my staff and we're always working toward a goal."

Tim is originally from Michigan where he managed a lawn spray company before coming to California. He worked at Carmel Valley Golf and Country Club (Quail Lodge) under Scott Jorgensen who mentored his development. "Scott was always really positive and encouraging. I have to take my hat off to him for my success in the business," says Tim. "It was Scott who encouraged me to get involved in the NCGA internship program and eventually to take my first superintendent's job at Laguna Seca Golf Course." After about a year at Laguna, Larry

Lloyd saw something he liked in Tim and moved him over to Rancho where he's been ever since.

Tim attended turf related courses at Michigan State and also at Monterey Peninsula College. He served time in the military and helped locally as a volunteer fireman for ten years. He has two grown children and three grandchildren. He's been married to his high school sweetheart for 33 great years and is now looking forward to the day when he can somehow retire. For fun, he enjoys playing the grandchildren, wood working and composing music on his keyboard. He even has a mini recording studio in his home where he works on composing easy listening, new age type music.

We're all looking forward to going back to Rancho for the Larry Lloyd Holiday Event. With the history, Tim's hard work, and a holiday attitude, this year's event promises to be nothing short of spectacular.

