



Sierra Nevada Chapter Hosts Great Joint Meeting



By Ken Williams, CGCS

The Golf Course Superintendent's Associations of Northern California and Sierra Nevada came together on Monday October 2nd at the

beautiful Arrow Creek Golf Club. Host Superintendent Robert DiPietro and staff were wonderful hosts and had the course in beautiful condition. NCGA Agronomist Mike

McCullough provided the education at the meeting. Mike described some ongoing local research and what was happening with the university programs in the area. Sierra

Pacific Turf Supply and Normac graciously sponsored the meeting.

Superintendent members of the two associations competed in the annual Ryder Cup competition on the demanding Challenge course at Arrow Creek. This private John Harbottle/Fuzzy Zoeller course gave players all they could handle that day. The links style course featured wide undulating fairways and deep penal bunkers. Winds were gusting to 30 mph during the event that made the course's firm/fast greens extremely challenging. The match play singles event was won by the GCSANC 6 _ to 4 _.

Arrow Creek has a total of 36 holes of golf plus an 18-hole natural grass putting course. Their public course, The Legend, was designed by Arnold Palmer and is more of a traditional desert layout. The facility is an American Golf Country

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November Marks the Return of the Institute

For NorCal Superintendents fall represents the time of year when the word relax can be re-introduced into their vocabulary. Slowly, the focus begins to shift from the daily demands of summer into thoughts of winter projects; the holidays and some much

needed time away. It also represents, the return of the GCSANC premier educational event the – the Golf Course Superintendents Institute. The annual event, developed in conjunction with the UC Extension Service, will be sponsored by West Coast Turf.

This year's two-day program unfolds on Monday November 13, with the annual golf tournament hosted by Dean Gump and Pasatiempo Golf

maintenance. With a wide range of knowledgeable, local speakers, complete with trade show, the conference promises to be highly educational and

objectives this year was to increase the participation level of Assistant superintendents," said Bob Costa who has served on the Institutes Education

Committee since it's inception. "Were hoping the discounted registration fee for a superintendent attending with their assistant or

irrigation tech will do just that".

Lodging for this years Institute is available at the fully remodeled West Coast Santa Cruz Hotel, which is just a short walk from the Boardwalk's Coconut Grove. For more details consult the Institute program or contact the GCSANC office.

Discount Rate Offered for Institute

Superintendents attending this years Institute, can bring along their Assistant or Irrigation Technician for a special reduced price of \$200 dollars. The special rate represents a \$50.00 savings over the regular registration fee.

Club. Following golf, it's the opening of the trade show and reception at Santa Cruz's Coconut Grove.

Tuesday the 14th marks the start of the educational program, which will feature a series of practical discussions on irrigation design and

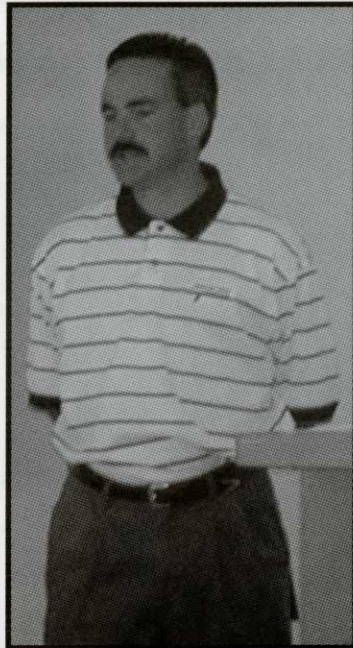
entertaining.

Because of the practical nature of this year's program, superintendents are encouraged to take advantage of a special registration fee that will allow their Assistants and Irrigation Technicians to attend at a reduced fee. "One of our

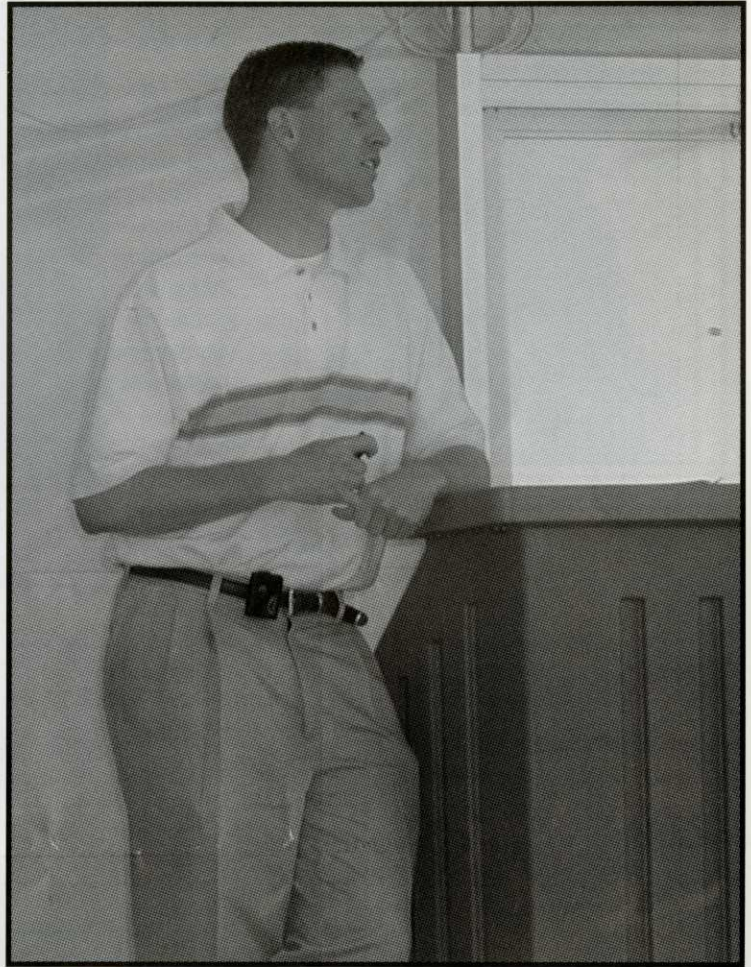


Joint Meeting (Cont'd)

Club and is located on a sloping alluvial plane high above Reno. Superintendent Robert DiPietro began at Arrow Creek during construction in 1997 following stints at Canyon Oaks CC, Castle Oaks CC, Spyglass Hill GC, and Newport Beach CC. He's originally from Portland, Oregon and attended college at Cal Poly Pomona and College of the Desert. Robert was an incredible host for the meeting and went out of his way to make everyone feel welcome. Hopefully we'll get to visit him again soon.....only just on a little calmer day!



Arrow Creek's Superintendent,
Robert DiPietro



Speaker Mike McCullough of NCGA addresses those attending the Joint Meeting at Arrow Creek Country Club

Tournament Results

Joint Meeting GCSANC/SNGCSA

Arrow Creek Challenge

(Upper) Course – Par 72

Ryder Cup: N. California 6 _ Sierra Nevada 4 _

Low Gross: Mike McCullough 81*

Ross Brownlie 81

Mike Ligon 82

Alan Sowers 83

Cal Swanson 83

Low Net: Stan Amass 66

Don Naumann 70

Joe Stucken 71

C. Pearson 72

D. Moffett 73

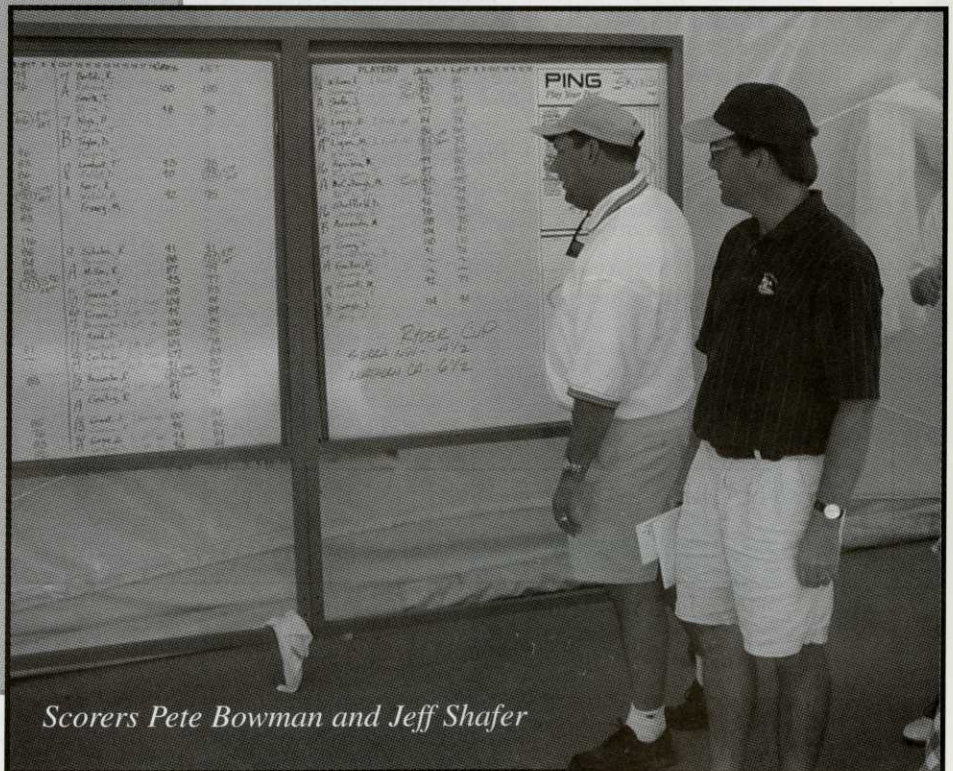
Skins: Shafer Hole #1

Sowers Hole #3

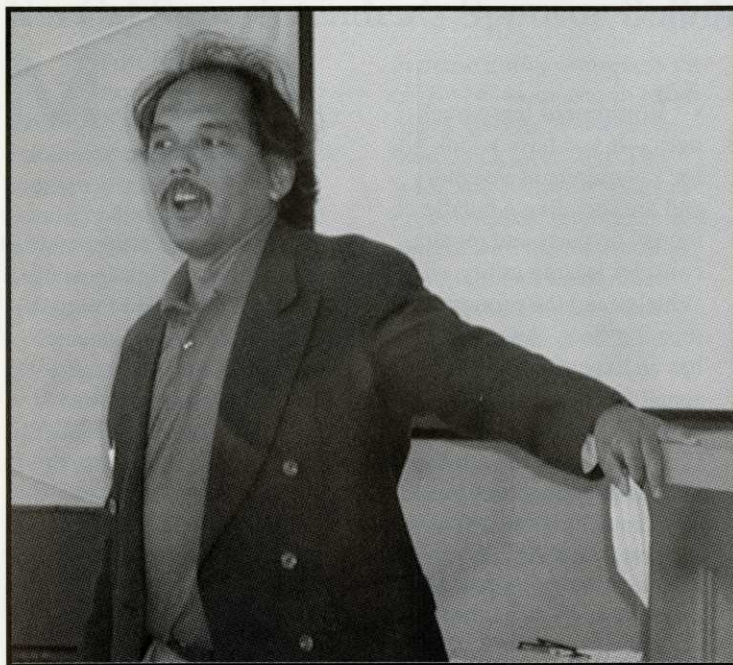
Franzen Hole #11

Frazier Hole #17

* One score card playoff



Scorers Pete Bowman and Jeff Shafer



Above: Sierra Pacific Turf Supply's Bowman, Naumann, and Jackson

Left: Sierra Nevada GCSA President, Jessie Creencia

Below: Arrow Creek Putting Course.

Why is the PDI necessary? (Cont'd)

with an assurance that Class A members meet a baseline proficiency within most of the competencies outlined through required experience and education.

The application of pesticides in the golf course maintenance practice often attracts the most attention from governmental agencies, the media and the public. Demonstrating expertise regarding these applications provides assurance that Class A superintendents are knowledgeable about the most recent procedures and methods for the safe handling and use of these products. Furthermore, golf course superintendents are the environmental stewards of the property they manage. By requiring that Class A members have a valid pesticide license or pass the GCSAA-developed pesticide test, GCSAA members will illustrate their commitment to environmental stewardship by meeting and, in most cases, exceeding the requirements of applying plant protectant products. This proactive step will make a large impact when

GCSAA meets with environmentalist groups and regulatory agencies.

The ongoing education requirement demonstrates that Class A superintendents are actively seeking education to stay abreast of the latest developments. Service points are given for activities and contributions outside of traditional educational events. Support of GCSAA's local chapters is crucial to help ensure a vibrant local support network for superintendents. Serving golf-related and civic organizations also help build leadership and management skills; assigning points for these and other service-related activities provides an additional incentive for participation.

The PDI's mission illustrates the main reason for its proposal:

"To improve the knowledge, skills and abilities of the professional superintendent that contribute toward improved playing conditions and the enjoyment of the game of golf."



We feel strongly that individual golf course superintendents and the profession as a whole has a great deal to gain from this initiative. By better understanding the link between continuing education and increasing our value to our facilities in the eyes of our employers, our members are positioned to gain appreciation, compensation, retention, and job opportunities.

For a complete copy of the proposal, look at the PDI section under the Learning Center by logging onto www.gcsaa.org or call the GCSAA Service Center at 800/472-7878.

If you would like an electronic version of this document, please contact Judith Ferguson, GCSAA Education Department Coordinator, at 785/832-4469, or e-mail your request to jferguson@gcsaa.org.