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 Club. See “Joint Meeting” on Page 6

November Marks the Return of the Institute

For NorCal Superintendents fall represents the time of year when the word relax can be reintroduced 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 Club. Following golf, it’s the opening of the trade show and reception at Santa Cruz’s Cocoanut Grove. Tuesday the 14th marks the start of the educational program, which will feature a series of practical discussions on irrigation design and maintenance. With a wide range of knowledgeable, local speakers, complete with trade show, the conference promises to be highly educational 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 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. “We are hoping the discounted registration fee for a superintendents attending with their assistant or irrigation tech will do just that.”

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

Discount Rate Offered for Institute

Superintendents attending this year’s 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.