NorCal’s Wagoner Reaches Fifty Year Milestone

Cliff Wagoner CGCS, a former Golf Course Superintendent at Del Rio Country Club, was recently recognized as a 50-year member of the Golf Course Superintendent’s Association of Northern California. The GCSANC, which was founded in 1932, is the largest of the six superintendent associations in California.

Wagoner’s remarkable 31-year tenure at Del Rio began in 1954 and ended with his retirement in 1985. Amongst his many accomplishments, Wagoner served as the NorCal President in 1959, 1965 and 1967. In addition, he held a similar post with the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America in 1973, where he has been a member since 1956.

Throughout his career, Wagoner has been a constant advocate for the superintendent profession and was instrumental in implementing numerous programs at the local, state and national level. His efforts gained him Distinguished Service awards in both the CGSANC and GCSAA in 1985 and 1996. In 1987, the California Golf Writer’s Association recognized him for his many contributions to golf, presenting him with the coveted Golden State Award.

One of Wagoner’s proudest accomplishments and one that exemplifies his dedication to the profession was his attendance at monthly association meetings. Between 1953 and 1968, only once did he fail to attend and that was due to illness.

So what’s left for a one of the most distinguished members in GCSANC history? According to Wagoner, he has his sites set on two more goals. “I’d like to get fifty in with the GCSAA and attend 50 straight conferences,” says Wagoner “then I’ll be ready to fade away.”

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