

2005 GCSANC REGIONAL SEMINARS

WHERE:

Crowne Plaza, Pleasanton
11950 Dublin Canyon Road
Pleasanton, CA 94588
925-847-6000

WHEN:

January 11 and 12, 2005

WHAT:

Tuesday, January 11

Stephen Bernhard – Express Dual

Stephen Bernhard, the genius behind Express Dual, puts you on the cutting edge of reel grinding technology!

Wednesday, January 12

Dr. Bree Hayes – The Hayes Group

Renowned management strategist Bree Hayes gives you the tools to whip your staff into shape!

Reserve a room at the Crowne Plaza before December 24, 2004 to receive a special rate of \$99.00 per night. Mention GCSANC for special rate!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Pat Finlen, CGCS
Olympic Club

With the GCSANC's year moving into the last quarter, there still is time to participate in some of the great opportunities the association offers. The Institute is a long-standing educational event that takes place each November. This year the focus will be on trees and the many issues related to the care and maintenance of trees. The educational portion will take place on Monday November 8th with golf available on November 7th and 9th.

Coming up on the 3rd of December is the Holiday Party at the Crowne Plaza (formerly the Doubletree Hotel) in Monterey with golf at Pacific Grove GC. This year's dinner party will be another break from tradition with a comedian entertaining us as well as a drawing for some special prizes to be announced.

We wrap up the Association's year with two GCSAA seminars, and the Annual Meeting in January. The seminars focus on Reel Grinding with Stephen Bernhard and Staff Management with Dr. Bree Hayes.

This past September 16th we hosted Employee Day at the Oakland A's game. Many thanks go out to John Holmquist of Horizon, who secured all of the great food for the event, and to Armando Sanchez of Sequoyah Country Club who helped John with all of the cooking. Also, thanks to Terry Grasso of Sequoyah for providing the barbecue equipment.

By the time you read this, we will have had our second strategic planning meeting. With a third meeting planned later in the year, we will come away with a definite long-term plan for our association. While the thought of long term planning is close at hand, its time to think about electing our future leaders for the association. If you have a desire to run, or know of someone you think would be a good candidate, please pass his or her name along to any board member. While being on the board is certainly a time commitment, you get much more than you give from being a board member.

Gill Stiles represented our chapter at the Chapter Delegates Meeting in Kansas City this past September. There were many issues presented to the delegates at this meeting. Please take the time to read Gill's recap of the meeting. Your concerns on these issues is voiced through Gill. Please don't hesitate to call him with any comments or concerns you might have.

As we approach the Holiday season, please take the time to remember those that are less fortunate than us and enjoy the holidays.



OFFICE NOTES

Barb Mikel,
GCSANC Association Manager

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California is entering its 74th year as a golf organization. How does a volunteer, not-for-profit organization continue for so long where other corporations fail? The answer is people - and their commitment - plain and simple. Their membership, leadership, and commitment to this organization and industry are absolutely wonderful.

Each year the Board of Directors and the Elections Committee bring new vitality to the organization. Members with busy schedules, families and other interests still find time to "give back." If you want to participate, don't wait to be invited. After all, it is your organization. Step forward and run for the Board of Directors, or help by signing up for a Committee (listed in your directory.)

You can serve the GCSANC membership in other ways as well. Offering your club to host a meeting, participating in GCSANC sponsored research, writing an article for "Thru the Green", or responding to "survey questions" etc. So step forward, both you and your organization will be a lot better for it!



#4 at The Links at Bodega Bay Harbour

Joe Rodriguez Retires



After twenty-six years, Joe Rodriguez retired at the end of August from the Rossmoor Golf Course. Hired as the landscape manager, he accepted the superintendent's position when the previous superintendent left. "When I first came here, I thought of it as temporary position," he said reflecting on his years in Rossmoor. "I found I really enjoyed being a golf course superintendent. There are a lot of good people in the community."

During his years at Rossmoor, Joe was very active in the GCSANC. In 1990, Joe was named the Superintendent of the Year of the Northern California chapter. He also received a Distinguished Service Award in 2001 for his services to the chapter. Joe served two terms as president in 1990 and was drafted again in 1996, only one of three two-term presidents. He also served many years on the board and other committees.

In 1996, Rossmoor and Joe were recognized by the GCSAA for an Environmental Service Award.

Before coming to Rossmoor, Joe was in charge of landscape for Contra Costa County. He has a degree in horticulture from Diablo Valley College and in business management from St. Mary's College.

Joe has plenty to keep him busy during his retirement; "I'm retiring from Rossmoor, not from life." A 24-handicap golfer, Joe plans to golf, travel, spend time with his family and work on his landscape business.