

GCSANC HAS PRESENCE AT CA GOLF WRITERS BANQUET

The California Golf Writers Association turned 50 this year and its annual awards banquet at Pebble Beach was almost like a birthday party. Several GCSANC members were in attendance, not just to help blow out the candles on the birthday cake but in support of colleague **Steve Byrne** (Mira Vista Golf & Country Club) honored as *Golf Course Superintendent of the Year*.

Byrne shared the stage with fellow honoree **John Abendroth** recognized as *Golf Professional of the Year*. Abendroth co-hosts *Hooked on Golf Radio Show* (KNBR 680AM) an assignment shared with his good friend, **Mitch Juricich**. Both gentlemen are GCSANC advocates and frequently remind their listeners about the significant role of the golf course superintendent.

For those who've never attended a golf writer dinner, you should. Held during the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am week, the event attracts golf writers, producers, amateur and professional players, celebrities, golf historians and industry leaders. A few local superintendents attend, but others are absent (and rightly, so) as they prepare their respective course/s for the PGA TOUR event slated that week.

While the golf writers are celebrating their 50th year, it's been just less than a decade that the GCSANC has been formally included on the VIP invitation list. Thanks to the support of CGWA members like **Bob Murphy** (master of ceremonies), **Kristen Hunter** (event chair and co-owner of Hunter PR), and **Ron Agostini** (golf writer for the *Modesto Bee*) and others too, the GCSANC Superintendent of the Year is now recognized at the banquet along with other dignitaries.



Award recipient Steve Byrne with golf broadcaster and fellow honoree Roger Maltbie, Jason Green and Mike Souza.

Recent GCSANC honorees join the ranks of respected **Class "A" Life Member Clifford Wagoner, CGCS**, a former *Golden State Award* recipient, honored at the banquet in 1988. His wife, **Myrtle**, (a loyal GCSANC supporter) recalls, "It was the year they moved the awards dinner from Monterey Peninsula Country Club over to The



Whether it's removing hazardous trees, pruning for views of a green, or opening up a fairway; we will work with you to design a tree care management plan specifically for your golf course.

Serving the Greater Bay Area from 15 service centers.

10% Discount for First-time Customers



cagwin & norward

800-891-7710

www.cagwin.com



WRITERS BANQUET *(Continued)*

Inn at Spanish Bay so they could accommodate the huge crowd.” The event still attracts more than 350-450 golf enthusiasts.

“It’s a special evening not just because of all the networking that goes on,” stated **GCSANC Past President Jason Green**, “but because you never know who might just show up out of the blue.” Sure enough, Actor **Bill Murray** popped in towards the end of the dinner hour, tossed out a couple one-liners about his good friend/honoree **Bob Murphy** and followed it up with a few light-hearted words about golf course superintendents. Before you knew it **Carl Spackler** himself, slipped out the back door and was on his way, but not before a local paparazzi captured a photo of the Caddyshack star with honoree **Steve Byrne**, witnessed by **GCSANC Members Mike Souza** and **Jason Green**.

After dinner, guests remained in the ballroom visiting with friends, colleagues and celebrities, reminiscent of good times past. Last year, ESPN’s **Chris Berman** posed for a photo with chapter members. This year former PGA TOUR Player and **NBC Broadcaster Roger Matlbie** joined GCSANC’ers for a quick visit and snapshot, too. “It’s moments like this, that golf course superintendents have an opportunity to visit with others closely associated with the game,” stated **GCSAA Director Pat Finlen, CGCS**. “It’s also an excellent forum for folks to learn more about our members and their commitment to professional excellence.”

GCSANC Superintendent of the Year Steve Byrne stands proudly with his wife Samantha, at the California Golf Writer’s Banquet at The Inn at Spanish Bay.



“Service is Our Business”



Providing Quality Golf Products:

- USGA Spec
- Bunker Sand
- Kiln Dried Sand
- Dakota Peat Blends
- Fairway Top Dressing Sand
- USGA Spec Gravel
- Stabilized DG
- StaLok Bunker Liner
- Western Pozzolan/In -organic
- Topsoil
- Planters Mix
- Bark Products
- Construction Aggregates

Northern California
800.734.3053 - www.wcsg.com



Mr. and Mrs. John Abendroth were joined by GCSANC Member Steve Good and his wife at the Golf Writer Dinner.

Cut water use by 15 to 25 percent



Aqua-PhyD's in-line water and soil treatment system uses resonant frequency technology to reduce soil compaction and harmful Na levels

Works with all water sources including brackish and reclaimed water

Increase root growth and nutrient uptake



Installation at a Southern California Golf Course

888-288-AQUA (2782)

Call toll-free for more information or email
info@aqua-phyd.com



Satisfaction Guaranteed!

www.aqua-phyd.com

WRITERS BANQUET (Continued)

Better start saving now if you're interested in attending next year's banquet, as it's a little on the pricey side, but it's worth it. There's also a raffle associated with the event and funds raised benefit youth scholarships. To learn more about the CGWA awards banquet, contact GCSANC Communications Consultant Emmy Moore Minister at EmmyPGA@aol.com.



GCSANC Honoree Steve Byrne takes time out for a photo with Actor Bill Murray of *Caddyshack* fame.



John Abendroth and Mitch Juricich, long-time hosts of KNBR's *Hooked on Golf* radio show.

TMT ENTERPRISES, INC.

Phone: 408-432-9040

IN BUSINESS SINCE 1961

Serving California Golf Courses For More Than Forty Years
GCSANC Members Since 1976

USGA Root Zone Sand or Mixes
Green & Fairway Top Dressing Sand
Divot Mixes & Planter Mixes
Bark, Compost, Peat, Coir, Sawdust, Mulch
Gypsum & Lime in Bulk, Bags or Bulk Sacks

Bunker Sand of any Type, Color, Origin
Kiln Dried Sand in Bulk or Bags
Gravel, Drain Rock, Road Base, DG
Stabilized Cart Path Aggregates
NEXPAVE Wax Coated Aggregates

Proud
Sponsor

STONEBRAE
CLASSIC



Web: www.tmtenterprises.net

Manufacturer Direct Distributors for



Email: info@tmtenterprises.net