

OTEI Program

Dear GCSANC Member,

Many of you may not be familiar with our program called the Oakland Turfgrass Education Initiative. Our program focuses on introducing youth in the Oakland area to potential careers in the green industry and related industries. Throughout the school year we conduct numerous study tours with students in middle and high school where students get a brief introduction to environmental science as well as an introduction to the game of golf. We also have provided several summer internships for students the last several years. Each year we also try and take several students to the Golf Industry Show. You can also visit www.oaklandturf.org for more information on our program.

In these tough economic times finding funds to support our program has become increasingly difficult. We have been challenged to find creative ways to raise funds so we can continue the work we are doing in the local community.

You will find a link to a flyer* for a new partnership OTEI has entered into with the Oakland Raiders for the upcoming season. As you can see by the flyers, there are tickets available for all home games for the upcoming season. We can start selling tickets right now (they will not be on sale to the general public until early late July/early August) and for each ticket we can sell OTEI will retain a portion of the sales price. Tickets need to be purchased a minimum of 30 days in advance of each game. Depending on the number of tickets we sell, the Raiders will donate other items to our program

to use in our fundraising efforts. For example, if we sold 500 tickets during the year we would be eligible to get two sideline passes or an autographed jersey to use however we choose. If people are interested in purchasing full price tickets in other parts of the stadium we can also help facilitate that through our Raider contacts.

We would hope that GCSANC and its members will help us spread the word about this great program that will help support our efforts in Oakland. Please feel free to share the flyers with as many people as you can. For this year, I will be the primary contact for getting orders done.

Please also note that October 31st is designated as OTEI Day with the Raiders. We may get scoreboard recognition that day depending on how many attendees we may have at that game. I am pleased to hear that the GCSANC Board of Directors will be designating this day as a GCSANC calendar event. We hope to see many of you that day or throughout the season.

Thanks to all for helping spread the word about this new program that will help support our OTEI program in Oakland. I hope to see you at a game soon.

Gary K Carls, CGCS
OTEI CEO/President

*See web home page www.gcsanc.com lower left for download.

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