

# THRU THE GREEN

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California

MARCH / APRIL 2013

Northern California Chapter  
**GCSAA**

*Stanford  
University*  
GOLF COURSE

*Pirate*





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# Office Notes

By **BARBARA MIKEL**



My thanks to our outgoing board members, Tim Powers, CGCS, Dave Wilber, Nick Checklenis and David Procter. I enjoyed and appreciated your involvement and just want to say, you can do it again someday! Members who commit a minimum of two years out of busy lives are special for you and to your association.

I'm looking forward to five new board members! Association laws and regulation have changed in the last few years. Association bylaws need to be reviewed and updated to current California Corporate codes. It will be a year of review, revise and record.

I just reviewed the 2007 update to the strategic plan. This was a broad undertaking with specific items and goals. Some met, some unrealistic and some not met. Our strategic plan was updated in 2011. The process was independent of the 2007 plan and provided a structured method to strengthen and encourage member participation in the association. A work in progress with some listed below.

## GCSANC Resources

Web site: [www.gcsanc.com](http://www.gcsanc.com)

## Job Notices

The association provided an average three position available notices a month for membership.

## Membership Directory

You can search online for members' contact information. The directory is also provided in PDF format for download and/or printing.

## Information

Research papers, meeting and activities; apply for membership, meeting registrations, association history, bylaws and general information.

## Scholarships

Apply for scholarships for your kids. If you have an intern, the turf scholarship is available online as well. GGCSANC awarded five \$1,000.00 scholarships last year. <http://www.gcsanc.com/membership/2010-scholarship-application/>

## Free Classified Listings

Sell, buy, swap and free (Jason's List)  
<http://equipment.gcsanc.com/>

## Free GCSAA Webcasts

NorCalendar  
<http://www.gcsanc.com/events/>

## Facebook

Updates to current membership activities, association events, industry leaders and programs. [www.facebook.com/gcsanc](http://www.facebook.com/gcsanc)

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## Thru the Green

Current and archived, downloadable and printable issues 2009 to current.  
[www.gcsanc.com](http://www.gcsanc.com)

## Michigan State University Libraries

Turfgrass Information Center from 1972 to *Thru The Green* 2008.  
<http://archive.lib.msu.edu/tic/ttgnc/>

## Submit Content

Want to send us something for *Thru the Green*? We love to have articles written by membership. Just submit by these deadline dates:

April 9	May/June Issue
June 11	July/August Issue
August 13	Sept/Oct Issue
Oct 8	Nov/Dec Issue
Dec 10	Jan/Feb 2014 Issue

## NorCalendar

**MAR 18**

**USGA/NCGA/GCSANC  
Green Section Conference**  
*Sequoyah Country Club, Oakland*

**APRIL 15**

**NCPGA, GCSANC & CMAA  
Invitational**  
*Ruby Hill Golf Club, Pleasanton*

**MAY 20**

**Superintendents Field Day**  
*Tilden Park Golf Course*  
**See page 7 for more information**

**JULY 1**

**Clifford And Myrtle Wagoner  
Scholarship & Research  
Tournament**  
*Claremont Country Club, Claremont*

**DECEMBER 6**

**Holiday Party**  
*Del Monte Golf Course and  
Monterey Hyatt Regency Hotel*

## More Details?

Visit [www.gcsanc.com/events/next/](http://www.gcsanc.com/events/next/)

## New Members

**Andrew O'Haver**  
Sonoma Golf Club

**Brian Hurley**  
Harco Fittings

**David Marshburn**  
Earthcare International

**Eric Styck**  
The Olympic Club

**Geoffrey Plovanich**  
The Olympic Club

**Heaps Branden**  
Coastal Paving, Inc.

**Jarred O'Barr**  
Monterey Peninsula Country Club

**John Knickelbein**  
Kimballwest

**Mark Wilson**  
Shorline Golf Links

**Robert Clarke**  
Half Moon Bay Golf Links

**Thom Irvin**  
Indian Hill Club





## President's Message

By **JON CHRISTENSEN**

### Can We Count On You?

Here we are in the midst of another busy golf season that is already flying by. When are things ever going to slow down? We all get wrapped up in our busy times and work and think we better finish this or that before we give up time for other things. I know I am guilty of that and am sure many of you could say the same thing. Why do I say this?

Well, as we approach the GCSANC calendar and planning stages for this year and next, the board will be taking some of that busy time to ask some difficult questions of ourselves, the Chapter, and the members and sponsors. What are we as an association doing well or not well? Are we having enough meetings or too many meetings? What will our future bring and how can we start by planning for the future now? How can we better serve our oh so important sponsors? What research should we fund for the future of our business? Not only will we be asking ourselves as a board these questions, but we will also be looking for your input as well through some surveys, or better yet, personal phone calls or conversations.

I am hoping we can count on you for some input as we try to make things better and more efficient moving forward, just as we all try to do in our jobs each and every day. Better yet, if you have any words of wisdom you could pass along to a board member, please do so. I am excited for the team that has been assembled for the 2013 Board of Directors, and know we will accomplish some necessary changes as we move through the year. As I mentioned earlier, some of the necessary changes may be visible changes, however, some of the more necessary changes will take place behind the scenes in regards to our Standard Operating Procedures and By-Laws, both of which help guide the Association now and in the future. Though the time commitment of serving on the Board is minimal, it is time that seems harder and harder to come by, which makes it more important than ever to make sure our Association is organized to ensure consistency and efficiency for future volunteers. I hope we can count on you for some valuable input as the busy season progresses. Thanks in advance!



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## Editor's Ramblings

By **BRIAN C. NETTZ, CGCS**  
Presidio GC; Editor, *Thru The Green*

Yep, that really is a dog on the cover of *TTG*. Yeah, we really did that. It actually turned out to be an interesting social experiment as to how Pirate came to the cover of *TTG*. Since most requests, or pleas really, for photos of many golf courses go unanswered, I decided to try something different, if unoriginal. Like the golf course dog calendars we all see and get, I copied the idea for our cover. And just as Turfnet and Lebanon get more requests than they can print, so did we. You'll most likely see more dogs in future issues. I guess that's where our hearts lie. I'm cool with that. I love dogs too. Even more, the dogs we have are indicators of who we really are and we will all get glimpses of a different side to people we have known for years.

Ken, who is always willing to go the extra mile when it comes to *TTG*, gave us the pooch premier for the cover and a great bio.

Perhaps we are more proud of our dogs than we are of our turf. On any given day they might be more rewarding. It's a tough industry right now and this has always been a tough profession. On the bright side, how many jobs avail themselves to the special bond shared between humans and dogs?

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San Francisco: Gary Otto,  
209-483-5648



## Tilden Park Superintendents Workshop

You don't want miss this one.

When: May 20

What: Superintendents Field Day

"Creek Renovation in the 21 st Century"

Where: Tilden Park Golf Course

Who: East Bay Regional Park District, FEMA, Tilden Park Golf Course, Restoration Design Group, Vollmar Natural Lands Consulting

In 2005-6 a historic flood event destroyed sections of Wildcat Creek. Environmentally oriented natural flood control, silting prevention and habitat restoration were some of the goals of the restoration project conducted as a multilevel project involving East Bay Regional Park, Tilden Park Golf Course, Federal Emergency Management Agency and private restoration and design companies. Ongoing IPM at Tilden Golf Course.

Why: Learn the ins and outs of cooperative resource, habitat and restoration management and from those who have done the job the "right way".

For details and to keep up to date visit the GCSANC website:  
[www.gcsanc.com/events/](http://www.gcsanc.com/events/)

## Aquatic Pesticide Permit Update

*Note: The bold text below indicates an update as of February 8, 2013*

**Existing Permit Good Through 2013;**

**New Permit Ready for 2014**

Based on significant input from permittees, California State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) staff recently agreed that continued use of the existing 2004 aquatic pesticide permit through 2013 will be protective of water quality while at the same time allowing for a transition to the new permit.

**To view the draft permit and the response to earlier comments, visit the State Board webpage here:**

**[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/np-des/aquatic.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/np-des/aquatic.shtml)**

The new permit is anticipated to be adopted on the consent calendar and will become effective December 1, 2013. The new permit will likely have a requirement that permit documentation (i.e., revised APAP, NOI, map, etc.) be submitted 90 days prior to pesticide application to allow for adequate time for review by SWRCB staff and the public.

Existing permittees will continue "status quo" through the 2013 weed season. Existing and new permittees that want permit coverage for the 2014 weed season will need to use the new permit. In order to have new permit coverage in place, we recommend that new permit documents be prepared and submitted to the SWRCB staff **on or before November 1, 2013.**

From a practical standpoint, the above is good news for aquatic weed managers. It allows for an orderly transition to the new permit with adequate time to develop revised permit documents in time for the 2014 weed season. To be safe, it will be critical that permit documents be prepared and submitted to the SWRCB staff in the Fall of 2013.

Update provided by Blankinship Associates, Inc.

[mike@h2osci.com](mailto:mike@h2osci.com) | (530) 757-0941

## CTLS Seeks Members

The California Turfgrass and Landscape Foundation would like to invite all individuals and companies in the turf, landscape and water industries to join the CTLF. This organization raises and distributes funds to support research throughout California.

Over the last decade we have seen the number of researchers and the number of projects decline significantly and there is no time better than the present to support this research individually or through your company or agency. For those requesting invoicing please contact our office.

For more information on the CTLF, please visit our

- Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/pages/California-Turfgrass-and-Landscape-Foundation/297048953648860?fref=ts](http://www.facebook.com/pages/California-Turfgrass-and-Landscape-Foundation/297048953648860?fref=ts)
- Website: [www.CaTLF.com](http://www.CaTLF.com)

Any further questions can be directed to:

Bruce R. Williams, CGCS

Executive Director, CTLF

(310) 991-9176

[Bruce@WilliamsGolfConsulting.com](mailto:Bruce@WilliamsGolfConsulting.com)

## Turfgrass Information Center

Greetings to all Turfgrass Information Center supporters!

The 2012 TIC Annual Report will bring you up to date on what's happened with the Center during 2012.

Some quick highlights of the report:

- Over 50% of TGIF records now link to full-text!
- 1.1+ million search results presented
- 3 new Full-Text Archive sites launched: Golfdom, Thru the Green, and Hole Notes
- 18,500+ new TGIF records
- 10+ million PDFs displayed of TIC-hosted materials
- 70 academic subscribers worldwide
- An inside look at how TIC's materials are digitized

See the full report: [http://tic.msu.edu/TIC\\_Annual\\_Report\\_2012.pdf](http://tic.msu.edu/TIC_Annual_Report_2012.pdf) - please feel to extract and reprint content there as you see fit (with appropriate credit) in any reporting to your membership, boards, committees, or in your publications, etc.

The Turfgrass Information Center is honored to celebrate 30 years of TGIF with all of our supporters! To help us moving forward for another 30 years, please see the "Future Directions and How You Can Help" section.

With regards to all,

The Turfgrass Information Center Staff

Turfgrass Information Center

Michigan State University Libraries

100 Library

East Lansing, MI 48824-1048

USA

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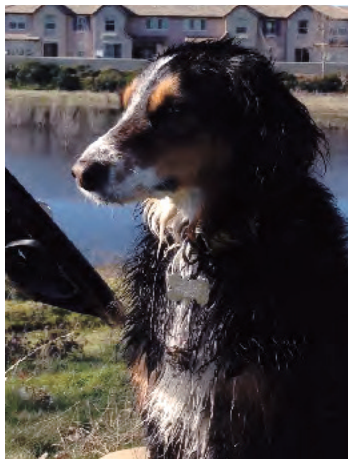
# Gone to the Dogs



▲ Here is a photo of my dogs Gordie (sitting in cart and Jack (standing on floorboard). They are Australian Shepherd brothers. Gordie is in charge of wildlife control, while Jack supervises from the cart. Todd Lyijynen, Diablo Country Club

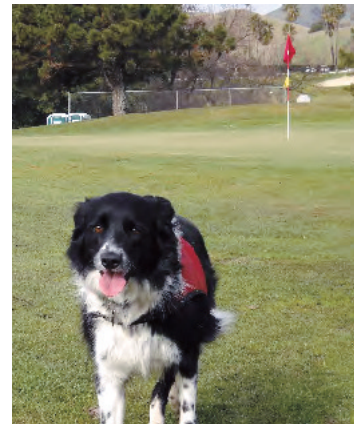


▲ Winona  
16 Months,  
Miniature Australian  
Shepherd/Red Merle  
Vince Ferrante  
Assistant Superintendent  
Spyglass Hill Golf Course



▲ ASPCA rescue  
Approximately 4 years old  
Border Collie/Australian  
Shepherd mix  
I trained him how to haze  
geese at Empire Ranch and  
he is ready for work every  
day. Rodney Muller

▼ My name is Steve Pacheco and I am the Golf Course Superintendent at Pajaro Valley Golf Club in Watsonville, CA. My partner with me every day at the course is Yogi. Yogi is a Burnese Mountain/German Shepherd Mix. He is very well behaved, never leaves my side, and has a knack for sniffing out & digging up gophers.



▲ This is Molly a 4½-year-old border collie from Sunol Valley Golf Course, her hobbies are geese and turkey patrol. She has been on the job for four years and loves every minute of it. She is owned by Bill Andrade, golf course superintendent.



▲ Pirate  
Breed: Mixed, primarily Australian Shepherd & Border Collie  
AKC Certification: None; Age: 8  
Breeder: Keith Kaminski, Kaminski Golf Construction  
Training: Puppy I, Puppy II  
Favorite activities: Frisbee, tug, chasing squirrels, barking at delivery people, herding, running up to members for treats, napping, wading in the creek, wrestling with his brother Buddy II.  
Likes: Sniffing, peeing, bones, squeaker toys, peeing, sniffing, crew lunches.  
Nickname: Hungry Dog  
Tricks: Shaking hands, high-fives, rolling over, air-time Frisbee catch  
Worst golf course experience: He caught a squirrel crossing the fairway between two groups of ladies on Ladies Guest Day. He basically shook the squealing squirrel to death before letting go.  
Kenneth Williams, CGCS, Stanford University Golf Course



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## NorCal Blogs

A formal education got most of us in the door of many clubs, but first-hand experience is how we have made a name for ourselves. With the popularity of Golf Course Superintendent Blogs, what better way to get a first-hand experience?

With our newest addition of *Thru the Green*, we want to introduce you to some of the blogs that are in your area. There are many talented superintendents in the GCSANC that are regularly blogging which we hope will further your education in the ever-changing business of growing grass.

**Brian Boyer**, Cinnabar Hills Golf Club  
[www.cinnabarhills.blogspot.com](http://www.cinnabarhills.blogspot.com)

**Austin Daniels**, Monterey Pines  
[www.montereypinemaintenance.blogspot.com](http://www.montereypinemaintenance.blogspot.com)

**Kevin Breen**, La Rinconada  
<http://kevinpbreen.blogspot.com/>

**Josh Clevenger**, Claremont CC  
[www.claremontturf.blogspot.com](http://www.claremontturf.blogspot.com)

**Ken Williams**, Stanford  
<http://sgcsuperintendent.blogspot.com/>

**Doug Ayres**, Coral de Tierra  
<http://corralmaintenance.blogspot.com/>

**Brian Bagley**, The Villages Golf and CC  
<http://villagesgolfmaintenance.blogspot.com/>

**Rodney Muller**, Empire Ranch  
<http://empireranchgcm.blogspot.com/>

**Dan Dalske**, Contra Costa Country Club  
[ContraCostaCCTurf.com](http://ContraCostaCCTurf.com)



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# Annual Awards

The GCSANC Turfgrass Excellence Award is presented to an individual for their high level of achievement as they uphold quality standards in turfgrass maintenance. Award criteria takes into consideration: overall course condition, conservation and environmental factors, course activity and maintenance budget. This honor will be awarded in two categories.



## **Turfgrass Excellence Award, Public Category**

### **George Young**

*San Jose Municipal Golf Course  
San Jose, CA*

George Young started in the turf care industry working 12 years for the Pebble Beach Company as a spray technician and project man at Spyglass Hill GC and Pebble Beach GL on the Monterey Peninsula. Next, he was off to Rancho Canada GC (Carmel, CA)

where he served seven years as an assistant golf course superintendent. To this day, he still remembers the two major floods he endured during his tenure at the 36-hole public facility located next to the Carmel River.

In 1999, Young accepted the golf course superintendent position at San Jose Municipal Golf Course (San Jose, CA), a South Bay facility owned by the City of San Jose and operated by Rawitser Golf. If you've never had the chance to visit a busy, Silicon Valley-based municipal course, you might want to spend an eye-opening day with Young, at facility that welcomes golfers 365 days a year.

Now, in his 13th year at this popular municipal course (a course, known by the locals, simply as "Muni"), Young knows that the tee sheet remains full and golfers are Number 1, which may require adjusting crew schedules to complete on-course projects. It never fails, no matter how busy the course might be, Young and his staff get the job done, and well, at that.

While many golf courses experienced some decline in business in recent years, San Jose Municipal GC remained solid in rounds, keeping Young and his crew of 12 in demand when caring for the 100-acre parcel which also includes a highly-frequented driving range and practice center.

This par-72, Robert Muir Graves-designed course consists of ryegrass and bermudagrass fairways with a bent-poa mix, and bentgrass greens with some poa. The course relies on both recycled water and well water recycled for fairways and rough, and well water for greens. Common practice at the facility is to minimize the use of chemicals whenever possible.

Young and his team have redone all 18 greens and recently he's been working on drainage projects. Next priority will be a tree moving project with the ultimate goal of elevating interest and increased shot strategy for the low to the mid-low indexed player.

Young enjoys his work as well as the crew he surrounds himself with on a daily basis. As for his management philosophy, Young believes you should use everyone to the "best of their strengths" and work with them on their weaker areas, too...but always make sure to recognize their talent and strengths.



## **Turfgrass Excellence Award, Private Category**

### **Ken Williams, CGCS**

*Stanford University Golf Course,  
Stanford, CA*

When it came to selecting a finalist for Turfgrass Excellence in the Private Category, certified golf course superintendent Ken Williams quickly came to mind. Not only is he responsible for a well-maintained university golf course in the San Francisco Bay Area,

Williams is also responsible for overseeing the 30-acre Siebel Varsity Golf Training Complex which has been touted as the best in all of collegiate golf.

Prior to arriving at Stanford University GC in 1995, Williams worked at Rancho Bernardo Inn & CC (San Diego, CA) and also at La Quinta Hotel GC (La Quinta, CA).

The Stanford University GC (originally designed by George Thomas with construction managed by William "Billy" Bell) continues to be in premier condition today, due to the diligent work of Williams and his crew. Ranked No. 6 on *Golfweek's* Best Campus Course list, the course is enjoyed by university students, faculty, members, and alum, and has hosted scores of notable tournaments over its 83-year history including: NCAA men's and women's championships, Pac-10 championships, U.S. Open Qualifiers, the USGA Junior Championship and the Western Amateur.

When you ask Williams about his maintenance philosophy he'll be the first to tell you he leans towards natural and sustainable. At Stanford they conduct very few preventive treatments for pests, and make a point to spot treat most weeds and diseases. Williams works faithfully to keep bent grass the primary turf on the greens, because it requires far less fertilizer and chemical inputs. According to Williams that work entails doing things "the old school way" (similar to a British greenkeeper's model) which means more sand, less fertilizer, lots of iron and no core aeration. Overdoing the cultural practices like verti-cutting aerating, ultra-low mowing and heavy feeding shift the balance away from the favored turf types. He also believes that maintenance practices dictate what type of turf will persist on the rest of the course, and since California's climate is so mild many types of grass grow but few will truly thrive. Williams tends to let nature and the maintenance practices dictate what type of turf grows where, and in what season.

A former GCSANC Course Superintendent of the Year honoree, Williams also shows his dedication to the game through his volunteerism. He has served on the GCSANC board of directors, hosted Nor Cal Chapter fundraising events and a highly successful Field Day, too. And, while he's a successful blogger today, the GCSANC will always be grateful to Williams for his years of dedicated work as the chapter's newsletter editor.

# Annual Awards

The George Santana Distinguished Service Award is presented to a dedicated chapter member, for their long-standing commitment to the GCSANC and the turf care industry.



## George Santana Distinguished Service Award

**Terry Grasso, CGCS**

Sequoyah Country Club,  
Oakland, CA

At the formative age of 13, Terry Grasso started as a caddie at Claremont CC, and now, today, this distinguished honoree is a certified golf course superintendent at Sequoyah Country Club (Oakland, CA) where he is completing his 26th year as a GC-

SANC member.

Prior to Sequoyah CC Grasso was the golf course & grounds superintendent at Burlingame CC (Hillsborough, CA), an assistant golf course superintendent at the Olympic Club (San Francisco, CA), a greenskeeper at Claremont CC (Oakland, CA) and also an assistant golf professional there, too.

Grasso does a tremendous job in his role as golf course superintendent at Sequoyah, a private, East Bay club which is rich in history and spirit. In the late 30's and early 40's, Sequoyah served as venue host for the Oakland Open which attracted such stand-out players as Hogan, Nelson, Snead and Demaret.

Grasso has long-garnered the respect of the club's leadership team, who values his work and recognizes the importance of a well-maintained course. Grasso finds great satisfaction in training and inspiring his staff and continues to mentor them as well as other up-and-coming turf care professionals throughout the Nor Cal region. He is a trusted confidante to his colleagues and makes a point to get together with them as often as he can to "talk" turf.

This is a special year for Grasso and Sequoyah CC members as they celebrate the clubs' 100th anniversary. When the GCSANC was planning its 75th year anniversary celebration (a few years ago), it was Grasso who stepped up to the plate to serve as our event host. He still continues to lend a hand today whenever he can. In addition to supporting GCSANC programs like scholarship & turfgrass research, Grasso has hosted education workshops, California Alliance for Golf meetings and USGA Green Section meetings at his club.

Grasso and his club members are supporters of The First Tee of Oakland, the Oakland Turfgrass Education Initiative and the NCGA Foundation and have even hosted a 100-hole golf marathon benefiting charitable causes. Because Grasso and the members at Sequoyah genuinely care about the future of golf for kids, they have established a golf merit scholarship program which benefits local youth.

### View All Annual Meeting Photos:

<http://www.gcsanc.com/events/photo-archive/2013-empire-ranch-golf-club/>



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# Annual Awards

The Bert Graves Affiliate Merit Award is presented to an individual who has contributed in extraordinary ways to the association & its members.



## **Bert Graves Affiliate Merit Award**

**David "Dave" Wilber**

Sierra Pacific Turf Services,  
Nor Cal Region

The 2012 Bert Graves Affiliate Merit Award was bestowed upon Dave Wilber, principal and director of agronomy for Sierra Pacific Turf Services, a division of Sierra Pacific Turf Supply.

Wilber has been an agronomic consultant since 1992 and prior to that a golf course superintendent in Northern California and Colorado. He started in the golf maintenance and construction business at the age of 15. He has an AAS degrees in Soil Science and Turfgrass Science from Northeastern Colorado College and attended the Turfgrass program at Colorado State University. He was awarded the William A. Albrecht Soil Science Fellowship in 1990 and is a member of the Brookside Society of Professional Consultants.

Wilber has advised on construction, renovation/restoration and turfgrass management issues at high-end facilities to sites with limited budgets, and in more than 20 countries and throughout the U.S. His client list includes the Bandon family of courses plus Kingsbarns, Southern Hills, San Francisco Golf Club and the Olympic Club, to name a few.

He integrates sustainable soil and plant nutrition into the practical turfgrass environment. Wilber also blogs and shares his passion for turf care as a contributor to various turf and golf-related publications. There is no end to Dave Wilber's passion for Turfgrass, thus he's been tagged with the nickname: "The Turfgrass Zealot".

Wilber has served on the GCSANC Board of Directors as an affiliate representative (for two separate terms) and on the Sierra Nevada Chapter board where he served two consecutive terms. His knowledge is invaluable and his contributions to the association and the turf care industry are greatly appreciated. Wilber, along with Sierra Pacific Turf Supply, continue to be loyal supporters of the Nor Cal Chapter through their sponsorship of education, turfgrass research, and scholarship programs.

The Golf Course Superintendent of the Year Award is presented to a GCSANC member who has made contributions for the betterment of the association, its members and the overall profession. This is the highest distinction bestowed upon a golf course superintendent.



## **Golf Course Superintendent of the Year**

**Rodney Muller**

Empire Ranch Golf Club  
Folsom, CA

The GCSANC is pleased to announce that Rodney Muller is the worthy recipient of the 2012 Golf Course Superintendent of the Year Award.

As golf course superintendent at Empire Ranch Golf Club (Folsom, CA) Muller keeps himself fully-engaged at this public, links-like parkland course managed by Club Corp. Previous to Empire Ranch, Muller served as golf course superintendent at Tilden Park GC (Berkeley, CA) and earlier in his career held assistant superintendent positions at Monarch Bay GC (San Leandro, CA) and Topeka CC (Topeka, KS).

It was at Kansas State University that Muller earned a BS Degree in Agriculture with emphasis in Golf Course Management, which he added to his BA Degree in Management and Human Relations.

As a Class "A" golf course superintendent, Muller receives the Golf Course Superintendent of the Year Award for his ongoing contributions to the betterment of the association and its members, as well as the golf community. He has served on the GCSANC board of directors and in officer capacity as vice president, and in 2012, as president of the organization.

During his tenure as chapter president Muller was instrumental in improving programs and services for fellow golf course superintendents and affiliate members. His volunteerism efforts include serving on several committees spanning from Education and Institute to Newsletter & PR to Salary & Membership as well as Strategic Planning. At the national level he has participated in the Chapter Leader-Executive Symposium.

Muller is a supporter of the California Alliance for Golf (CAG), a statewide organization whose goal is to protect valuable resources for those in the business of golf and turf care industry. He's been an advocate for helping save Sharp Park Golf Course and supports charitable causes which include the ASPCA, The First Tee, and the Sam Singh Scholarship Fund.

## **Naumann's Nor Cal News**

**Justin Mandon** has accepted the Superintendent position at Pasatiempo Golf Club in Santa Cruz. Justin was the Superintendent on the Lake Course at the Olympic Club in San Francisco prior to his moving...**Pat Finlen, CGCS**, who was the Director of Maintenance at the Olympic Club, is now the Director of Golf at the Olympic Club...The former Superintendent at Pasatiempo, **Paul Chojnacky**, is now the new Superintendent at Oakridge CC in Farmington, Utah.



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# Trees

By **SEAN TULLY**, Meadow Club

Most of our Bay area courses were first built with very little in the way of trees. Courses like those found at Olympic Club, the Presidio, and the Cal Club were all heavily planted with trees to reduce the effects of wind on the course. These courses were planted early on and have come to be known for the trees as much as for the golf course itself. Among other courses in the area, trees were planted over the years with a large effort to plant trees during the 1930s. There are some wonderful aerials of San Francisco golf courses that were taken in 1937-8 that show that trees were already being planted on golf courses. It has been commonly thought that most of these trees were planted in the 1950s with the increased efforts of individuals and groups in celebration of Arbor Day.

Now we see these same courses removing trees for better turf conditions and increased playability. More thought is going into the proper management of trees on our golf courses and the results have made for far better experience on the golf course. One of my favorite comments on our Tree Management Program at my course was by one of our pros who said, "By taking out that one tree I can see more trees."

The following photos show the 9th hole at the California Golf Club. The first one shows the course in 1980 and the second shows the course shortly after the renovation work done there by Golf Architect Kyle Phillips, and by Thomas Bastis, CGCS and his staff. Sometimes it takes more than one tree to do the trick!!



The California Golf Club, 1980



After renovations

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# GCSANC Members, Folsom to San Diego



▲ 2012 GCSANC award winners



▲ The California Room on the USS Midway provided an interesting photo op.



▲ Scott Dickson, Dan Rogers, Chuck Talley discussing equipment?



▲ GCSAA and GCSANC Past President Clifford Wagoner, CGCS congratulates GCSANC Past President Pat Finlen, CGCS on his election as the 2013 GCSAA President



▲ Wagoners enjoying opening session at GCSAA GIS San Diego 2013



▲ Everybody check your shoes for TP.



▲ Welcome to San Diego GIS 2013 (back row, L-R) Patrick Finlen, CGCS, Barbara Mikel, Gary Carls, CGCS, Shirley Isham (front row) Myrtle Wagoner, Clifford Wagoner, CGCS

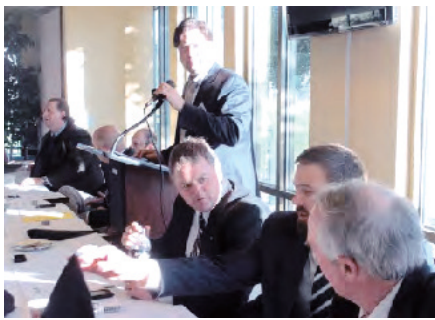


▲ Seriously Dale, this is the last time I'm tying this thing! Wait, does it go over once or twice?



▲ Ken Williams, CGCS reads Richard Harris's letter accepting Honorary GCSANC membership





▲ I thought you were going to bring the chips and I was bringing dip!



▲ I know, I know. 4th and goal we didn't run it...



▲ There's a brown Audi parked in my space. Call a tow truck and have it towed immediately!



▲ I know, I know...pass attempt on 4th and goal?



▲ Catching up with Friends

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## From the Field

By **JEFF JENSEN**, GCSAA Field Staff, Southwest Region

First and foremost, I would like to take a moment to thank all of our GCSA of Northern California members for their participation in the 2013 GCSAA Education Conference and Golf Industry Show and the National Championship and Golf

Classic. Without the support of our affiliated chapters, we would not be able to stage these successful events.

The GCSAA Education Conference and Golf Industry Show featured 13,192 attendees spread over nearly 173,000 square feet of exhibit space. 517 exhibitors participated and 4,560 seminar seats were filled. Additionally, the annual California Room event aboard the U.S.S. Midway was a complete sellout with 650 California GCSA members and guests in attendance.

The National Championship and Golf Classic featured nearly 450 participants. Charlie Costello, Class A superintendent at Phoenix Country Club claimed the GCSAA National Championship firing a two-day total of 3-over-par 147. California was well represented with San Diego GCSA member David Buckles and Central California GCSA member and defending champion Mike Stieler tying for second at 148.

If you want to relive both events, visit the "Hub," at <http://social.gcsaa.org/>. The "Hub" is a dynamic compilation of feeds from the GCM blog, GCSAA TV, Twitter, Facebook and Flickr, plus overall highlights from both events.

In other news and notes, I wanted to make you aware of some facts and figures from the recently released 2011 Golf Economy Report. This report was researched by SRI International and commissioned by the World Golf Foundation and Golf 20/20. As an industry, it's important that we cite the economic activity supported by golf to the media, public and various government agencies. A few highlights that I feel are important in relaying our message:

- The U.S. golf economy generated \$68.8 billion of goods and services in 2011.
- Golf generated a total economic impact of \$176.8 billion in 2011.
- Golf supported 1.98 million jobs with a wage income of \$55.6 billion in 2011.
- Golf attracted 25.7 million participants in 2011.
- Revenues generated by golf's core industries exceeds that of spectator sports, performing arts, and other amusement and recreation industries.

While the industry has certainly had its share of struggles over the past 5 years, these numbers prove that golf continues to offer lifelong recreational opportunities and enjoyment for millions. Keep these figures in mind when you are promoting your profession and the game.

Thank you again for all of your support and if I can be of assistance, don't hesitate to contact me at [jjensen@gcsaa.org](mailto:jjensen@gcsaa.org) or follow me on Twitter @GCSAA\_SW.

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