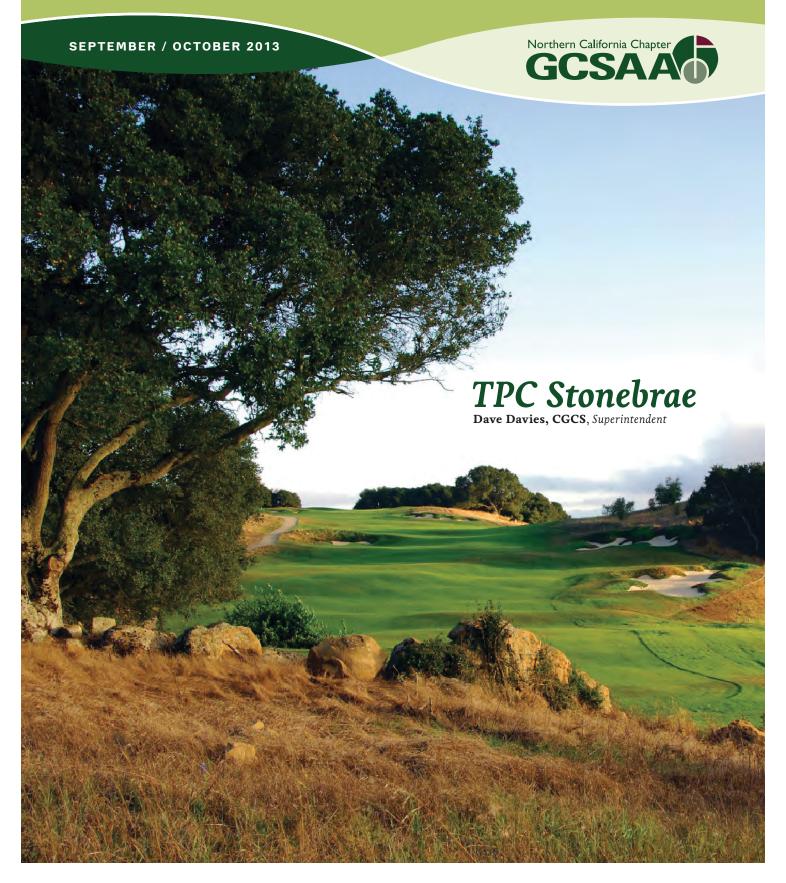
# THRU THE GREEN

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California



# Officers & Directors 2013

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ON THE COVER:

TPC Stonebrae, Hayward, hole 4.

#### Inside

Thru The Green published bimonthly by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California.

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## Office Notes

#### By BARBARA MIKEL

Then & Now		
1990	Now	
Intern, Poppy Hills NCGA	J.R. Simplot/Best	
Intern, Monterey Peninsula NCGA	Stockton Country Club	
Superintendent, The Villages Golf & CC	Superintendent, The Villages Golf & CC	
Superintendent, Poppy Hills Golf Course	Superintendent, Poppy Hills Golf Course	
1991	Now	
Superintendent, Cameron Park CC	Superintendent, Sun City Roseville	
As previously noted in our newsletter, Sunnyvale Municipal Golf Course was selected as the site for a Bent grass Trial Study project by Dr. Ali Harivandi. The site which was chosen in located behind the twelfth and thirteenth tee. Three plots measuring 60' x 100' each were sited with the entire plot measuring 220' x 110'. One plot is sand base with the other two plots native soil. After conferring with Dr. Harivandi and Ted Moore of Shelton Transfer Service,	California Golf Club Bent grass video. http://www.tee-2-green.com/media_gallery.php	
	Intern, Poppy Hills NCGA Intern, Monterey Peninsula NCGA Superintendent, The Villages Golf & CC Superintendent, Poppy Hills Golf Course 1991 Superintendent, Cameron Park CC As previously noted in our newsletter, Sunnyvale Municipal Golf Course was selected as the site for a Bent grass Trial Study project by Dr. Ali Harivandi. The site which was chosen in located behind the twelfth and thirteenth tee. Three plots measuring 60' x 100' each were sited with the entire plot measuring 220' x 110'. One plot is sand base with the other two plots native soil. After conferring with	

Inc., it was decided to use Olympia #125, #30 mesh sand. The sand was to be sat 12' depth with the total amount used to be approximately 246 tons. The native soil plots were amended with redwood fir bark. Nutrients were then determined and incorporated into the plots. The sand plot was amended with 140 pounds of superphosphate and 70 pounds of gypsum. This corrected a high pH problem experienced previously during reconstruction on our new greens at Sunnyvale Municipal Golf Course. The native soil plots were treated with starter fertilizer, Hydroprill 15-15-15. The border between and around the plots were outlined in Savannah Rye Sod. Anticipating an irrigation renovation to our system, we designed the plots with Toro 660 Series Valve-in Heads. Again, we would like to thank Ted Moore for the sand and amendments; Pacific Sod for the Rye Sod; Mike Ginnelli, West Star for the irrigation heads, Craig Stenehjem from R.V. Cloud for the PVC Pipe. This is the most complete set of bent grass trials anywhere in the United States. January 1991 is the first month the trials have been rated. They will be rated once a month for the next three years. A field day is planned for the summer of 1991, for all to come and see the plots and to monitor their progression. Keep reading this newsletter for the dates.

	1993	Now
<b>Bob Lapic</b>	Superintendent, Boulder Creek GC	Superintendent, Orinda Country Club
Joel Ahern	San Jose Country Club	Stanford University, Sports Turf
	1994	Now
Thomas Bastis	Intern, Spyglass Golf Course	Superintendent, California Golf Club

# President's Message By JON CHRISTENSEN



#### Are You Being Social?

Social Media. For some this may be two strange words to be mentioned in the same sentence, for others, this may be commonplace. In this day and age of social media, it is

hard to not be inundated with messages from so many different avenues such as Facebook, Twitter, Foursquare, LinkedIn, etc. We may be resistant in some cases to use social media and the advantages (or sometimes disadvantages) it offers, and some may see it as a passing fad so they are hesitant to use it.

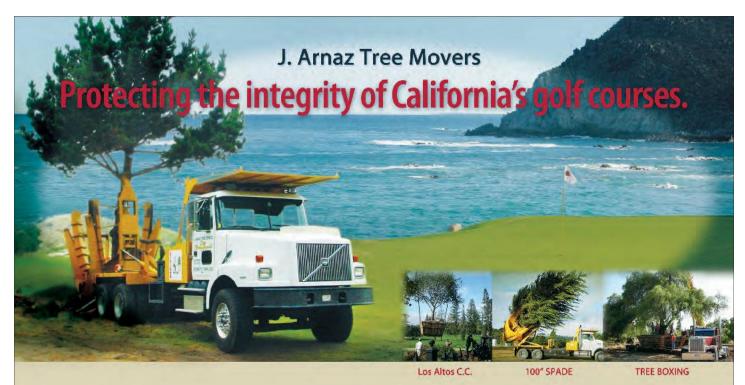
However, it has been here for quite some time now and doesn't appear to be going away. How does this all matter to the GCSANC and you, our members? It is another avenue to open the lines of communication from your Board of Directors to our membership about coming events, industry related news, association members doing special things, etc. If you have any ideas of what you would like to see us post on social media, we are all ears, just let us know. Our main avenue of social media communication is Facebook and Twitter, so please be sure to "like" our Facebook page and "follow" us on Twitter. I would really like to see us double our numbers in both these areas by the end of the year, so please add us to your list.

On another note, I would like to thank those who participated in our surveys recently. The information gained from these is very valuable to the Board as we make current and future plans. The re-

sponse rate to these surveys is above the normal average response rate, which makes us an envy of other associations. Thanks again for your help!

Lastly, I would like to inform you of a change being discussed by the Board of Directors for our annual awards. In the past, all of our award nominations came from the Awards Committee, which is comprised of past award winners and Association members, and also peer nomination from other GCSANC members. We would like to increase the field of nominees by including other club officials in the nomination process. There are multiple ways we would communicate the nomination process, but basically our club managers, greens committees, club professionals, etc., would also have the ability to nominate a Superintendent for the Turfgrass Excellence Award in the both the Public and Private categories. Many of those we work with on a daily basis are more aware of how Superintendents goes above and beyond more so than our peers may be, so increasing those who can nominate makes sense. We would insure the integrity and history of the award through our Committee process. The board discussions have been very positive in regards to this change, and I too would love to hear your thoughts. Feel free to e-mail me at Christenson.j.m@gmail. com if you have any opinions on this possible change.

Happy Aerification season!



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### NorCalendar

**OCTOBER 21-22** 

Assistant Superintendent Boot Camp, Survive & Thrive Monterey

**DECEMBER 6, 2013** 

**Holiday Party** 

Del Monte Golf Course & Monterey Hyatt Regency Hotel

**JANUARY 13, 2014** 

**Annual Election and Meeting** 

Oakhurst Country Club

# More Details?



### **New Members**

#### **Nick Manfre**

Green Hills Country Club Assistant Superintendent

#### **Jay Neunsinger**

Tilden Park Golf Course

Reclassified to Class A Superintendent



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### **TransMiss**

#### By SEAN TULLY

Back in 1998 in my final year at Colorado State University I was given a Trans Miss Scholarship. As with most college students I was very happy to get some extra funds. Fifteen years

later I found myself able to give back to the Trans Miss by hosting their 110th Amateur Championship at Meadow Club. The Trans-Miss hosts three golf tournaments annually in an effort to promote amateur golf and fund Turf Scholarships at over 20 different turf-grass management universities across the country. The first turf scholarship for \$600 was given to a student from Colorado State University in 1953, this year they are planning on handing out over \$60,000.

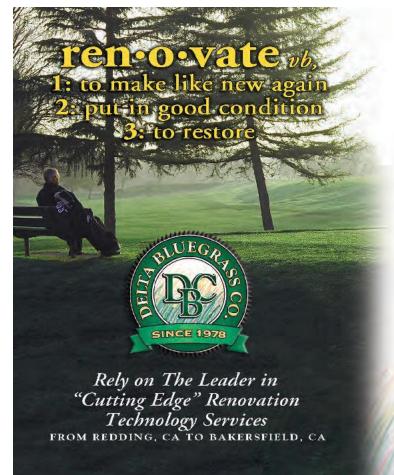
During the practice round some TransMiss staff came down to the maintenance area and we had our photo taken with the trophy. It was very cool to see and hold a trophy that held so much history and such notable names as; George Von Elm, John Goodman, Frank Stranahan, Charles Coe, Jack Nicklaus, George Archer, Ben Crenshaw, Bob Tway, and Mark Brooks. The trophy was pretty heavy and was in two pieces. We almost pulled a Phil Mickelson at the Scottish Open and dropped the TransMiss trophy. Thanks to some of my crew that had some quick reflexes and grabbed the trophy in mid-air and averted leaving our own mark on that trophy!!

It was amazing tournament and the strongest field of golfers that have ever played over Meadow Club. The eventual winner was

Bryson Dechambeau from Clovis, currently going into his Sophomore year at SMU. Bryson scores were, 65-65-67-69-266 for -14 and winning by 5 strokes.

I am happy to add Bryson to the list of great amateur golfers that I have seen play at Meadow Club and hope to follow his career at SMU and beyond. Bryson recently qualified for the US Amateur at Brookline, so even more reason to be watching the Amateur, good luck Bryson!





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### From the Editor



By BRIAN NETTZ, CGCS

# Bunker Rehabilitation at the Presidio

The topic of bunkers is one of the most frequent issues a superintendent will face. I won't get into the philosophical debate of hazards and how the game of golf has been dumbed down to the lowest common denominator of golfer; where there is no such thing as a bad lie on any surface. I'll save that for the post GIS-seminar round table discussion at the nearest brew house. The days of actually knowing how to hit out of the standing water in a hazard are gone. I get it. The customer wants what they want. I'm going to give it to him even if I don't agree with it.

Case in point: the bunkers at Presidio. The bunkers several years ago (and some here currently) are like many we all enjoy; contaminated with soil, hard, failing drainage, blah, blah, blah. But rather than just re-do what we had I wanted to do something different. I wanted to give a more rustic, rugged look to the bunkers and get away from the curvilinear forms that every golfer has hit out of on every course their whole life. I approached an architect in the very beginnings of the bunker rehab planning and we guised the project in the form of a master plan scenario. Unfortunately, or fortunately, the plans received no traction. I was disappointed but I think it worked out best in the end. A tee renovation project was commenced and the bunker project shelved. I moved on but in the back of my mind I continued to search for the new Presidio look.

Move forward a couple of years, and a buddy of mine now calls himself a course designer. He forwards me some photos of a course he worked on in British Columbia. Upon looking at the photos I thought, "There was something we don't see every day!" A very rugged, natural look. It looked like a golf course was routed through the natural surroundings; not some surrounding natural features

encapsulated into a golf course. This was very close to what would work here. By now the tee project was ramping down, customer complaints about the bunkers were fever-pitch and money was now suddenly available to devote to the rehab of our biggest complaint. Additionally, we were trying to re-capture the look and feel of an old style course and our work mirrored closely the rehabilitation work done elsewhere on Presidio. We had an unexpectedly smooth historic compliance review.

Rather than blab on about the construction, the details, the process and the frustrations, I'll merely leave room for the photos and some tips for those thinking about embarking upon this voyage:

- 1. Use high quality drainage materials: double wall drainage pipe. Resist the temptation to buy that cheap Home Depot crap and be a budget hero. Do it once and do it right. We prefer Turf Drain of America tiling, no pea gravel and lining the trenches for a complete seal.
- 2. Get a moisture release curve on your bunker sand to determine depth. Can't stress this enough. Our final depth is 10". Yes, 10".
- 3. Fold the sod over itself (roots to roots) on the edge about a hand's length and staple. It will minimize soil entrance during grow-in.
- 4. You can't overdo the amount of drain tiling inside the bunker. Get as high up the slop as you possibly can.
- 5. Don't skimp on sand. Buy what you can afford and remember that the whiter your sand looks the more successful the project will be perceived, all other things being equal.
- 6. You can't overdo the amount of drain tiling inside the bunker. Get as high up the slop as you possibly can.





During (above and right): We created bunkers that followed the land's natural contours. GCSANC member Kaminski Golf handled rough shaping.



After (below): The bunkers have a more rustic, rugged look.



The Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California

# Clifford & Myrtle Wagoner Scholarship Winners

# The Scholarships

One of the primary functions of the Scholarship and Research Tournament is to fund our very successful scholarship program. This scholarship program is one of the most rewarding accomplishments of the GCSANC. Both Legacy and Turfgrass related scholarships are awarded. We awarded six scholarships to help students attain their academic and career goals in 2013. Thanks to the Scholarship Committee: Todd Gillies, Stacy Wallace, Josh Clevenger, and Gary Ingram.



#### **SARAH FERRIN**

Sarah, daughter of member Jim Ferrin, CGCS, is currently attending Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. She received an associate of arts degree in social and behavioral science and now is majoring in Child Development with a minor in Psychology. She has been involved in children's pro-

grams for numerous years including the development of an art camp for homeless children, volunteering at UC Davis Children's Hospital in its Child Life Development Program and working at both Foothill Preschool & Infant Center and the Bergamo Montessori School. Her goal is to have a leadership role at a psychiatric hospital in the Child Life Development Program and to help mentor volunteers and interns at the Child Life Program's volunteers and interns. An academic advisor writes, "She has tremendous professional potential and is a very competent communicator." When asked why she has this passion to work with children she says, "I feel satisfied at the end of the day in knowing that I have positively impacted a child's life as well as the future of our society."





#### **JAVIER CAMPOS**

Javier is currently working at California Golf Club in San Francisco with Thomas Bastis, CGCS as his mentor. Currently an assistant superintendent helping to manage the daily golf course maintenance operations, he has attended California State East Bay and Skyline College and

is currently attending Rutgers University with a major in Turfgrass Management. His academic advisor states that Javier has "rightfully earned the respect of his classmates, facility members and is assuming a leadership role among his peers. Javier enjoys his position as assistant superintendent being able to train employees." Javier states, "I want to be in the golf industry to exercise all the things I've learned as well as contribute my own ideas on how the game can improve through better management practices."



#### **BRIDGETT CREENICA**

Bridgette, daughter of member Jessie Creencia, CGCS, is currently attending Cal Poly San Luis Obispo with a major in Recreation, Parks and Tourism Administration. She enjoys customer interaction and has worked in the food and beverage industry at both Starbucks and

Sizzler learning the different intricacies of these businesses. She chose this career because she enjoys event planning and organizing events. "I find joy in helping people get what they desire and having them satisfied," she stated. Her academic counselor writes, "Bridgette is an excellent student with a clear vision of what she wants for her future."



# Clifford & Myrtle Wagoner Scholarship Winners (continued)



#### **ZACHARY MARKOW**

Zachary, son of member Jeff Markow, CGCS, is currently attending Cal Poly College SLO, where he is studying to be a Mechanical Engineer. Zachary has a passion for problem-solving and working with his hands. His overall academic goal is to get a Master's at either UCLA or Stan-

ford. During the summers he has worked as a greenskeeper at Cypress Point Golf Course. There he has learned a passion for working outdoors, the need for a superior work ethic to be successful, and discovered the wonderful friendships that can be developed on a golf course maintenance team. His career goal is to be employed in the research and development of an automotive company to improve on engine systems. Zachary says that, "I believe I can improve the efficiency of automotive engines while also cutting down on emissions and lessening the overall environmental impact of all automobiles."



#### **ALISON ADAM**

Allison, daughter of member Stan Adam, is currently studying Communication Studies at UCLA. She chose to pursue her passion of writing and conveying her ideas and thoughts via this major. Alison was an Editorial Intern at Style Media Group where she wrote copyedited monthly

columns for three regional magazines and coordinated with advertisers to promote these publications. She writes that she is a "people person" and thrives on constant communication. Her goal is to work in the public relations field, the entertainment industry, or perhaps magazine publications.

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#### **HARRISON HUSTING**

Harrison, son of member Jim Husting, CGCS, will be attending Loyola Marymount University in the Bellarmine College of Liberal arts this fall. He will be studying Business and Economics. He has always enjoyed the business and financial management aspect of operations.

Harrison is a member of the first robotics team at school and developed the business plan including sponsorships to help fund the entire team. Harrison's goal is to have a career in finance either as a banker, stockbroker, accountant, or even as a politician. He has fond memories of attending numerous GCSAA tradeshows with his family.



### Naumann's NorCal News

#### By **DON NAUMANN**

Scott Stambaugh has accepted the supt. position at The Peninsula G&CC in San Mateo. Scott was the Supt at Overlake

CC in Medina, Washington prior to his move.... Matt Mullenbach has accepted the Grow in Supt position at Poppy Hills GC in Monterey. He had been the Supt on the Lake Course at the Olympic Club....Glenn Matthews has left Wente Vineyards in Livermore and is the new Super at Visalia CC in Visalia. His replacement at Wente has not yet been chosen. John Pollock is the interim Super.....Ron Fukuyama has left Santa Clara Golf and Tennis Club. His replacement is Denis Smith who was the Supt at Mount Shasta Resort Golf Course in Mount Shasta City.....



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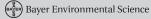
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### Clifford & Myrtle Wagoner Scholarship & Research Tournament

On July 1 we held our sixth annual Clifford & Myrtle Wagoner Scholarship & Research Tournament at the beautiful Alister Mackenzie Claremont Country Club. Our hosts, Josh Clevenger and Randy Gai CGCS, had the golf course in impeccable condition and provided an amazing venue for this event. Again our members broke records by raising over \$25,000 for the GCSANC scholarship and research programs. The staff at Claremont Country Club served us a wonderful meal with special refreshment on the first tee which made the warm beautiful day even more enjoyable. Our thanks go out to Josh, Randy, their team at Claremont Country Club and our sponsors for making this such a fun and successful event.

Kevin Rosa, Club Car, Inc.

Jeffrey Markow, CGCS Cypress Point Club

Thomas C. Jackson, Sierra Pacific Turf Supply, Inc.

Reggie Pomicpic, Brown Sand, Inc.

Joe Ballmer, Syngenta

Don Barrett, Graniterock

Graeme Parris, Parris Turf Equipment

David Piper, CGCS, Simplot/Best Professional Products

Ryan Wilson, Turf Star, Inc.

Gary Gilliland, Naturetech Fertilizers

Thomas Bastis, CGCS, California Golf Club

Tom Gray, CGCS, Corde Valle Golf Club

Bob Lapic, Orinda Country Club

Gina Ratto, Delta Bluegrass

Ken Mauser, Aquatrols

Scott Canfield, Crop Protection Services, Inc.

James Sherman, Turf & Industrial Equipment Co.

Justin Mandon, Pasatiempo

David Davies, CGCS, TPC Stonebrae

James Husting, CGCS, Woodbridge Golf & Country Club

Matt Moore, TMT Enterprises, Inc.

Tom Smith ,TPC Harding Park Golf Course

Ryan Verness, Bayonet & Blackhorse Golf Course

Vincent Keats, CGCS, Amway

Greg Dunn, West Coast Turf

Don Nauman, Sierra Pacific Turf Supply, Inc.

Dean Kinney, Sierra Pacific Turf Supply, Inc.

John Francis, Parodi Iron Planet

Fernando Villagran-Costello, Links At Bodega Harbour

Jeff Jensen, GCSAA Regional Representative—Southwest

Terry Stratton, Little River Golf & Tennis

Brian Boyer, Cinnabar Hills Golf Club

Bruce Olson, CGCS, Golden Gate Park GC

Ryan Smith, Mid Cal Tractor

Gary Ingram, CGCS Metropolitan Golf Links

Rodney Muller, Empire Ranch Golf Club

Tracy Bynum, Sportsturf Irrigation

Brad Snavely, Sustainable Turf Science

Gregory Fernald, Wilbur Ellis

Donald Sturton, Turf Tire Express

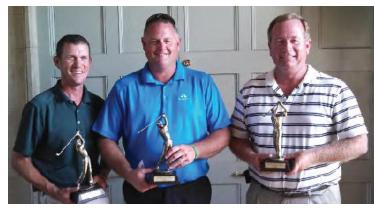
Jeff Shafer, City Of Livermore

Gary K. Carls, CGCS, Sunnyvale Golf Course

Bill Davis, Stollerpro Professional Products

Augie Knickelbein, Kimball Midwest

Leonard C. Tallo, Kimball Midwest



▲ Low Net: Chad Morris, Jon Christenson and Jim Culley



▲ Low Gross: Ryan Smith, Steve Bryne, John Holmquist and Dale Simpson



▲ Jason Goss, Mike Kosak, Andy O'Haver, Nelson Trejo



▲ Mike Parks, Stacy Walace and Kevin Breen



▲ Terry Grasso, Randy Gai, Bob Lapic, Don Naumann



▲ Tom Jackson, Mike Basile, Sue Farwell, Tim Powers



▲ Rodney Muller, Rick DeLaCruz, Ralph Torres, Morgan Malone



**▲ Nauman & Kinney** 







# golf industry show

GCSAA Education Conference | Trade Show | GCSAA Golf Championships

Leading the industry in quality education, product innovations and networking opportunities, the 2014 Golf Industry Show provides you with everything necessary to keep your career and your facility a step ahead and ready to face any challenge:

**CONNECT** with thousands of your peers, building relationships and picking up tips **LEARN** from the most prominent names in the industry who will answer your tough industry questions **GROW** your knowledge of golf course management and your network of contacts



#### **EDUCATION CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS**

- **NEW** Monday-Thursday format
- 450+ hours of innovative education
- 75+ seminars to choose from
- 16 **NEW** seminars available
- 40+ sessions throughout the week
- Two NEW networking events
- Opening Night Celebration Tuesday, Feb. 4
- Closing Celebration Thursday, Feb. 6
- General Session featuring the USGA on Thursday morning
- Tips and techniques for managing your facility on a tight budget





84% of attendees are confident that the event makes them more valuable to their employer

**82%** of attendees feel that the event delivers real value to their golf facility

#### TRADE SHOW HIGHLIGHTS

- 500+ exhibitors
- 175,000 net square feet of exhibit space
- New Product Showcase highlighting the most innovative products and services
- 20+ hours of education on the trade show floor
- Hands-on preview of the most innovative products and services on the market
- Countless networking opportunities that spark new ideas
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# golf industry show

GCSAA Education Conference | Trade Show | GCSAA Golf Championships

The 2014 GCSAA Golf Championships, presented in partnership with The Toro Company, is teaming up with Disney for a weekend of championship golf, valuable networking, luxury accommodations and an attendee experience that is bound to be magical.

To alleviate the amount of overlap between the GCSAA Golf Championships and the education conference, the tournament schedule has been shifted back one day. The new schedule will run as follows:

Four Ball

Welcoming Reception

Shamble

Golf Classic

National Championship

19th Hole Reception

Saturday, Feb. 1

Saturday, Feb. 1

Sunday, Feb. 2

Sunday and Monday, Feb. 2-3

Sunday and Monday, Feb. 2-3

Sunday and Monday, Feb. 2-3







DISCOVER solutions to your biggest challenges while networking on and off the course

• FIND out first-hand how the game of golf impacts what you do every day

• DEVELOP long-term, valuable relationships with other industry professionals

- VIEW maintenance practices while playing several top-notch golf courses
- PLAY against your peers in a friendly competition
- WIN money for your chapter



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Hawk's Landing Golf Club Marriott's Grande Pines Golf Club **Celebration Golf Club** 

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### From the Field

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

Labor Day has come and gone and everyone is gearing up for the fall season. Where does the time go? I hope all of our GCSANC members

had a great summer and were able to enjoy some quality time with friends and family.

As a superintendent in California, you are well aware of the ever increasing laws, rules and regulations that have a significant impact on the daily operations and maintenance of your facility. Whether its pesticides, ADA regulations or water management issues, they continue to command a lot of your time and attention.

Remember that GCSAA is there to help. GCSAA's public policy and government relations program is recognized as the entity of influence in the golf industry. Issues are tracked at the federal government and all 50 states: 535 members of Congress, 7,500 state legislators, more than 80,000 municipalities, and enumerable regulators at the local, state and federal levels.

The work of the program is carried out by GCSAA government relations director Chava McKeel and staff who are guided in their work by a Board-approved annual Priority Issues Agenda which outlines the association's priority issues, along with GCSAA's official position on each issue. The current issues are the ADA, fertilizers, labor and immigration, pesticides, the value of golf and water management.

The program has two main functions, compliance and advocacy. GCSAA's compliance efforts are focused on assisting members, chapters and facilities in complying with all applicable laws and regulations that impact the golf facility. This is accomplished largely through one-on-one compliance counseling by staff. Compliance tools and resources are also developed in conjunction with government agencies.

The second function is advocacy efforts on behalf of members, the industry and the game of golf. These efforts are wide-ranging and include coordination of grassroots lobbying (members and chapters), direct lobbying by GCSAA staff, lobbying by Reed Smith (GCSAA's Washington DC-based law firm), working within industry coalitions, communicating directly with regulators, educating lawmakers and providing comments to regulatory dockets.

If you are experiencing any legislative or regulatory issues with the potential to harm or help your facility or the golf industry, please don't hesitate to contact me at jjensen@gcsaa.org to see if I can assist you or certainly point you in the right direction.

Thank you for your support of GCSAA and I look forward to seeing you at an upcoming event.

# A smooth transition.

