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Turf Seed/Tee-2-Green Blue Tag Program Provides Chapters With Fund- Raising Opportunity

As a reminder, The GCSAA Foundation continues to work with Turf Seed/Tee-2-Green on its Blue Tag Program. Through participation in this program, your affiliated chapter can raise funds to sponsor scholarship programs for turfgrass students or local and regional research, among other opportunities. For more information about this GCSAA Foundation program,

go to: <http://www.gcsaa.org/about/foundation/bluetags.html>

Survey Helps GCSAA Foundation

Lebanon Turf Products has developed the online Performance Index Number (PIN) survey to provide funds to the "Investing in the Beauty of Golf" endowment campaign. As a class A, B or C member, you are eligible to complete the survey and have Lebanon make a \$25 donation to the campaign in your name. Lebanon has pledged to donate a minimum of \$50,000 to the campaign. All funds will be used to support applied on-course research and educational advancements in the golf course management profession.

Complete the survey by visiting
<http://www.lebturf.com/PIN>.

THRU THE GREEN



Tim Greenwald and Rancho Cañada to Host Holiday Golf *By: En Williams, CGCS*



Rancho Cañada has returned to host the Holiday golf event for the year 2000. The club has been a terrific host in the past. The holiday event was played there for 19 consecutive years from 1973 to 1991.

The tournament is officially named after Rancho's former Superintendent, Larry Lloyd, who passed away in 1985. Larry was instrumental in hosting the annual holiday golf and did whatever was needed to help the association. Also to his credit, Larry was the actual inventor of one of today's equipment mainstays, the turf groomer. He put together the first set in the maintenance shop at Rancho. The tournament has had some great history and has provided a season ending getaway for GCSANC members. One of the more touching stories was when Larry's brother Paul Lloyd won the event in 1985, the year following Larry's death.

Rancho Cañada Golf Course consists of two 18-

hole courses, the East and the West, both laid out by architect Robert Dean Putnam. The actual course design was a product of the creative skills of owner Nick Lombardo and Larry Lloyd, Bob Costa, CGCS even got involved in 1998 with the re-design of the 12th hole on the East course that was devastated by the El Niño floods. The semi-private facility lies about a mile inland from Highway 1 in the beautiful Carmel Valley.

The courses border the beautiful Santa Lucia Mountains and sit abreast the Carmel River. The tight tree lined fairways make for a challenging golf experience. This year's event will be contested on the West course that plays at 6095 yards from the regular tees and to a par of 71.

Tim Greenwald is the superintendent and has been through a lot in his 18 years at Rancho Cañada. He has seen three major floods take their toll on the 36-hole layout in his tenure. Tim's been involved every time working months of long hours trying to restore the damage. The 1998 flood washed away 80,000 cubic yards of soil from the 12th fairway alone and covered 60% of the course in silt. Tim quips, "It made me realize that you can never underestimate Mother Nature. No matter how devastating things were, I still felt like nothing was impossible. As a benefit, I've sure gotten pretty good on the dozer over

the years."

Tim's staff is surprisingly small in number. He has only 13 full-time golf course workers to cover the 246 acres of maintained turf. He does share some gardeners with Laguna Seca and occasionally brings in part-timers for special projects. Currently the staff is constructing target greens on the practice facility. Asked how he gets it done with limited human resources, Tim stresses, "I strive to keep a positive attitude among my staff and we're always working toward a goal."

Tim is originally from Michigan where he managed a lawn spray company before coming to California. He worked at Carmel Valley Golf and Country Club (Quail Lodge) under Scott Jorgensen who mentored his development. "Scott was always really positive and encouraging. I have to take my hat off to him for my success in the business," say Tim. "It was Scott who encouraged me to get involved in the NCGA internship program and eventually to take my first superintendent's job at Laguna Seca Golf Course." After about a year at Laguna, Larry

Lloyd saw something he liked in Tim and moved him over to Rancho where he's been ever since.

Tim attended turf related courses at Michigan State and also at Monterey Peninsula College. He served time in the military and helped locally as a volunteer fireman for ten years. He has two grown children and three grandchildren. He's been married to his high school sweetheart for 33 great years and is now looking forward to the day when he can somehow retire. For fun, he enjoys playing the grandchildren, wood working and composing music on his keyboard. He even has a mini recording studio in his home where he works on composing easy listening, new age type music.

We're all looking forward to going back to Rancho for the Larry Lloyd Holiday Event. With the history, Tim's hard work, and a holiday attitude, this year's event promises to be nothing short of spectacular.



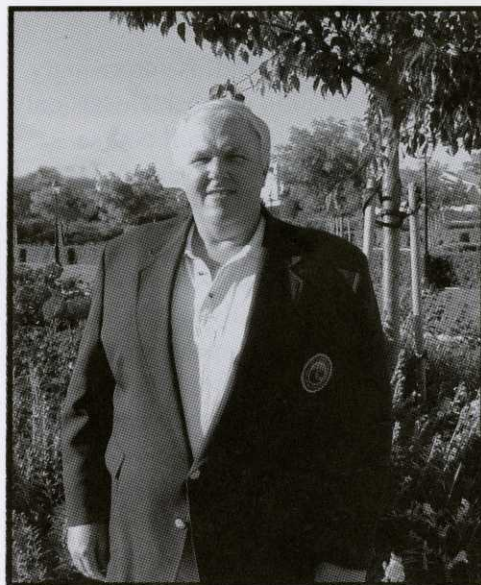


President's Message Happy Holidays to All

By Gary Carls, CGCS

The holiday season is upon us and it is a great time to reflect on the important things in life, our friends and family. We are all fortunate to be part of many families and share in the joy and hardships that they each face. We have our own personal family. We have our staffs that are in many ways another family. We also have the family of our fellow Superintendents. Everyday we face challenges from one or all of these groups. There are moments of great joy. There are moments of great sadness. We all make each other a little stronger.

At home I have a small family, just two of us. It is understood that my job is different than most and there aren't a lot of long summer vacations or late evening adventures. The sacrifices are made because I get to do something I enjoy doing. If you stop enjoying what you are doing, it is time to get out of the business. Most years we travel during the holidays to visit brothers and sisters and their families in distant places like Colorado or Michigan. Despite the distances and short amount of time we are together, we all feel quite close. We share stories of what has happened over the last year or two and laugh and have a good time. We also have disagreements but would never turn our back in a crisis. Even after almost 25 years in this



business, I don't think my family really understands what I do. Nor do I understand their jobs. The key is to try and make the most of the time you do have with your family because it is so limited.

At work we have our staffs who are in many ways our second family. We spend a large portion of our time with them, and like a family, depend on them to help us in good times and bad. We create strong ties and have a genuine interest in their well being. We ask them to follow our lead and we try and set a good example for them. Without their strong backing we would almost certainly fail. Take the time and show your crew that you appreciate them during the holidays.

Your fellow superintendents are also another family. There are many strong ties among our group because we understand each other's jobs so well. Over the years I have always been impressed with how well superintendents

work together to share and solve problems. Egos are left at the door and we all openly share ideas about how to make our courses better. We all share the common goal of making our course the best it can be for our players. As a board member your goal is to make GCSANC the best it can be. It makes

me feel good when a member comes up to me and thanks me for something I have done for them. I also know that if they were in the same position they would be doing the same thing. We all know stories of how our members have stepped up during tough times to assist a fellow member.

On January 23rd, Sunnyvale G.C. will host the 2001 GCSANC Annual Meeting. I hope everyone can attend. We will be electing our 2001 Officers and Board of Directors. There will also be some bylaw changes to be decided relating to Affiliate members of the board voting during board meetings.

Hope to see many of you in Monterey at the Holiday Party. It's a great time of the year to visit the Monterey Peninsula and visit with others and their spouses. It's a chance to spend some time in "Gods Country", as Bob Costa would put it, and relax with friends and family. There are plenty of activities in the area for every member of the family to enjoy.

To all, here's hoping your holidays are filled with joy and good times. Until next month.....Gary

Casino Night

Friday,
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Overseeding Trends in the Southwest

By: Pat Gross, USGA Green Section

Perennial ryegrass overseeding is a popular program in the fall at many locations in the Southwest, especially in the resort areas of Palm Springs, Phoenix, and Las Vegas. Every course has a slightly different program due to their location, needs of the course, climate, clientele, and personal preferences. The following is a brief review of the overseeding practices at five courses in the Southwest Region.

Desert Mountain, Scottsdale, Arizona: Shawn Emerson, Director of Golf Course Maintenance for Desert Mountain Properties, scheduled overseeding on their five courses between September 15th and October 15th. All tees, fairways, and rough areas received 600 lbs. of seed per acre with an additional 150 to 200 lbs. per acre in the fairway landing zones. To reduce *Poa annua* establishment in the overseeded areas, Shawn experimented with a preemergence application of prodiamine (*Barricade*) on the Geronimo course. Perennial ryegrass establishment was good on all the courses this year, and Shawn does not see any need for additional seeding going into winter to sweeten up the fairways.

Thunderbird Country Club, Rancho Mirage, California:

Roger Compton at Thunderbird Country Club in

the Palm Springs area overseeded his Tifdwarf hybrid bermudagrass greens during the week of October 11th with a combination of 18 lbs. perennial ryegrass, 8 lbs. *Poa trivialis*, and 1-1/4 lbs. creeping bentgrass per 1000 sq. ft. The tees, fairways, and rough were overseeded the following week at 650 lbs. per acre with an additional 250 to 350 lbs. on the fairways. Roger said the weather was ideal in the middle of October, and the course had great conditions for opening day.

The Springs Club, Rancho Mirage, California:

Mike Kocour, next door to Thunderbird Country Club at the Springs Club, had a slightly different program. Since Mike will be planting new bermudagrass next year, he sprayed all the fairways and rough with glyphosate in late September and seeded during the first week of October. With the broadcast spreader wide open, Mike said he got a rate of 581 lbs. per acre. An additional 200 lbs. of seed was applied to the fairways in the middle of October to increase turf density and compensate for any weak areas. Fortunately, weather conditions were very good during October, and the early seeding date allowed for a few weeks of additional growth and tillering prior the opening day on November 6th.

Angel Park Golf Courses, Las Vegas, Nevada:

Bill Rohret CGCS, Director of Golf Course Maintenance at the Angel Park Golf Courses, oversees two 18-hole courses and a 9-hole Par-3 course. Seeding dates were staggered to reduce the amount of time the courses were out of play. Seeding began on August 26th on the Mountain Course at a rate of 500 lbs. per acre on the tees, fairways and rough, with an additional 200 lbs. in the high traffic areas. The Mountain Course retained approximately 70% of the perennial ryegrass overseeding from the previous year, and this year's seeding helped boost the density. The Palm Course has a stronger bermudagrass base and was seeded the first week of September. Growth regulator was applied the last week of August and the course was seeded at the same rate as the Mountain course. Each course was closed 8 days for seeding and establishment. The Cloud Nine Par 3 course was seeded October 1st, and not shut down during seeding or establishment.

Big Canyon Country Club, Newport Beach, California:

Big Canyon hosted the USGA Women's Mid-Amateur Championship during the first week of October, and Jeff Beardsley had to hold off on seeding until the week of October 16th. The hybrid

bermudagrass fairways were prepared by simply lowering the cutting height from 3/8" to _" followed by dragging and sweeping to remove debris. Seed was broadcast at 375 lbs. per acre. The goal of their program is to provide some winter color without compromising the bermudagrass base. The course was closed for two weeks during seeding and establishment, up from two days the prior year. The extra time for establishment made a big difference in overseeding quality this year.

The Five Keys to Overseeding Success:

As you can see, there are many different methods to overseed the golf course, but the key to success lies in five main factors:

1. Timing – Overseeding should be scheduled when bermudagrass growth begins to slow and temperatures are still ideal for seed germination and establishment. Daytime temperatures should be 80-83°F with night temperatures around 55°F. Seeding before or after the recommended time period runs the risk of poor germination or excessive competition with bermudagrass. Unfortunately, most courses must schedule overseeding based on opening dates and tournament schedules. This year, temperatures were ideal for overseeding establish-



Overseeding (Cont'd)

ment, but other years they are not. When you use the calendar system, you take your chances.

2. **Irrigation system** – It is essential to have an efficient and dependable irrigation system to accurately water the overseeded turf several times during the day for proper seeding germination. Without such a system, all money spent on seed and supplies would be wasted.

3. **Seed rate** - A minimum seeding rate of 300 lbs. per acre is normally required for adequate turf density during the winter.

4. **Equipment** - Light weight mowers should be used to cut the seedling turf to prevent wheel ruts on the wet fairway soils and to avoid tearing the shallow rooted turf out of the ground.

5. **Traffic control** – All carts should be kept off the overseeded fairways a minimum of six to eight weeks. There is a direct correlation between turf quality and the amount of traffic allowed on the overseeded turf.

It is important to finish by saying that overseeding is not for everyone. While the winter playing quality is very good, there are significant costs involved for the purchase of the seed, additional water, fertilizer, labor and wear on equipment compared to courses that do not overseed in the winter. Summer playing quality can also be compromised if the overseeded grass persists well into the summer. Each course should carefully consider if overseeding is in their best interest.

Get Work Published in Sports Illustrated

GCSAA has a wonderful opportunity to have one of its member's work publicized in Sports Illustrated. The magazine is pursuing a project in which it will cover a golf course restoration/renovation project from start to finish. It will look at all aspects from the decision-making process to completion. We are asking for your assistance in identifying any such projects. The only requirements are the facility must be located in the sunbelt region of the U.S. or the southwest or west coast. The facility can be anything from a nine-hole municipal to a high end private club.

Please respond to GCSAA Director of Communications Jeff Bollig at 800-472-7878, ext. 430 or jbollig@gcsaa.org should you know of any such project

GCSAA Conference and Show Update

GCSAA's 72nd International Golf Course Conference and Show will be held Feb. 11-18, 2001 in the Dallas Convention Center, Dallas, Texas.

Have you reserved your spot at the conference and show? The big event may be more than three months away, but hotel rooms and education seminars are already quickly selling out.

GCSAA's Dallas web site is your comprehensive source for the latest information about the conference and show. You'll find details on everything from the six championship courses, to special guest activities, to all the forms you need to register for the conference. In order to use the stored list functions (my trade show favorites & personal planner) you will need to register on the conference and show site.

<http://www.golfcourseshow.com/reg2001.html>

If you haven't yet made a hotel reservation, you need to act quickly! Call GCSAA Travel at (800) 442-7220 to make your hotel reservations and other travel arrangements for the Dallas Conference and Show. You can find detailed information on each of the hotels by visiting the show web site at:

<http://www.gcsaa.org/2001confer/travel/hotels/hotelmap.html>

Would you like to plan your itinerary before you get to Dallas? The "Personal Planner" available online can do just that. As you browse through titles of events, you can click the box on those events you are interested in attending and add them to your planner. When you are ready to leave, use one of the print buttons located above and below your planner to get a print out of all the events you selected.

You can learn more about your "Personal Planner" here:

<http://www.gcsaa.org/2001confer/events/events.html>

The GCSAA Foundation's fifth annual Silent Auction is nearly underway! Take the time to browse through the listings and choose your products. Online bidding begins on Jan. 8, 2001, and closes on Feb. 17, 2001. All proceeds from the Silent Auction benefit applied on-course research and educational initiatives funded by The Foundation. Check out the silent auction items:

<http://auction.gcsaa.org>



GCSANC Members Focus On Irrigation at Annual Institute

By: Bob Costa, CGCS

In what has been labeled as the premier regional educational event of the season, GCSANC superintendents, their assistants and affiliate members recently gathered at Santa Cruz's Coconut Grove for the 10th annual Superintendent's Institute. The two-day event, held in partnership with the U.C. Cooperative Extension Service, provided turfgrass professionals throughout Northern California with the opportunity to enhance their agronomic and management skills.

The 120 seminar attendees were exposed to a wide range of topics dealing with golf course irrigation. According to Co-chairman Dr. Ali Harivandi, issues concerning irrigation efficiency and water quality are paramount for today's California superintendent. "A superintendent's ability to meet or exceed today's standards for course conditioning is directly related to water quality and water delivery systems," said Harivandi. "This year's

program was designed to provide turfgrass managers with practical information on irrigation system design, maintenance and operation, as well as new technologies such as the use of GPS mapping." Local irrigation professionals made presentations, as well as superintendents, who provided innovative solutions to irrigation problems.

Harivandi, whose expertise is turfgrass education and research, marvels at the success of the Institute,

having been involved since it's inception in 1990. "Golf Course Superintendents are constantly being challenged with new technologies, environmental issues and expectations for course conditioning," says Harivandi. "This year's record attendance suggests that superintendents and industry professionals recognize the value and importance of continuing education".

2001 California Hospitality Suite

Date: Feb. 15, 2001

Time: 7:00 - 10:00 p.m.

*Dallas World Aquarium,
1801 North Griffin St.
West End Historic District*

**Contact Person: Bob Tellema
California GCSA Board of Directors**

**California GCSA
221 W Palm
Reedley, CA 93654**

**Phone: 559-643-8707
Toll Free: 866-643-8707
Fax: 559-638-3925
Email: rtillema@telis.org**



The 2001 California GCSA Hospitality Suite in Dallas, Texas, will be held at the Dallas World Aquarium. The California Golf Course Superintendents and Company Representatives look forward to attending this event. The Dallas World Aquarium is an interesting and spacious venue, making it a great place to visit with friends and colleagues. Hospitality Suite sponsors and California attendee's will enjoy an excellent Southwest Buffet and beverages of their choice.

The California GCSA invites your company to participate in our Hospitality Suite Sponsorship Program.

SPECIAL NOTE: This year, California affiliation proof is required. You must show your GCSAA Conference & Show Registration Badge or your California Local Chapter Membership Card, to gain access into the Hospitality Suite.

There will be a \$25.00 charge for each guest.



Office Notes

By Barbara Mikel

Once again, it's time to renew your association membership. Dues statements and membership questionnaires will be mailed to you. This year's questionnaire should be much more understandable!

Please review the information for:

- 1) accurate mailing information — the left column and alternate information — the right column.
- 2) Your current position (superintendent, assistant superintendent, etc)
- 3) Your GCSAA number if you have one
- 4) Your membership classification
- 5) Your current telephone, fax and email address
- 6) Your current job description, course etc.

If all is correct send it to me! (fax it, mail it with your check or mail it separately).

Change or update:

- 1) Only the information which needs change or correction!

Invoice:

Included with the questionnaire is an invoice and copy. This information is important for your accounting department and association office to properly credit your payment. Please forward BOTH copies to your accounting department. Ask them to **return the yellow copy** to the association office along with payment **AND** your questionnaire. Most club offices are use to this accounting form and will look for it. All payments must be postmarked by December 31, 2000 or will be assessed a late fee of \$20.00.

In order to prevent the late fee being charged, we send a "statement" in December. This is a summary of all invoices you owe to the association. There may be other charges on the statement. The association bylaws require your account to be current to renew your membership.

I know 99 percent of you know and handle this routine chore each day. We do have new members and I hope this information is useful. If you have questions, please give the office a call!



January GCSAA Seminar In Pleasanton

On January 17th and 18th 2001 GCSANC and GCSAA will be presenting "Spanish for Golf Course Management 1" at the **Crowne Plaza in Pleasanton**. This seminar is one of the most popular seminars offered by GCSAA and regularly receives top ratings from attendees. The Instructor is Mr. Arturo Castro who has taught English and Spanish to adults for over 15 years. This is an excellent opportunity to gain a better understanding of many of your crew, their culture and their language. Please note that this seminar is limited to 45 attendees and the **seminar location is new this year**.

Topics Will Include:

- Vocabulary and phrases relevant to golf course management
- Basic Spanish language skills
- Insights into the Hispanic culture

Course is 1.4 CEUs

Member fee: \$240 Non-Member Fee: \$360

Code: 01RS035-01

Effective management comes from better communication. Learn the vocabulary necessary to communicate with your Hispanic employees.

Hotel Accommodations are available at the Crowne Plaza Pleasanton for \$149.00 per night + tax under the group name GCSAA.

To Register:

Phone: (800) 472-7878

Fax: (785) 832-3643

Website: www.gcsaa.org

Reclaimed Water Survey

The American Water Works Association (AWWA) has posted an on-line survey available for reclaimed water users located at **www.getwa.com**. The purpose of the survey is for the AWWA Recycled Water Committee to gain greater insight on golf course use of reclaimed water and any problems that have resulted in various regions or at specific sites.

The survey is brief and should take no more than 10 to 15 minutes to fill out. Please take the time to do so! Completed surveys can be submitted on-line, mailed, or faxed to:

Mr. Gary Grinnell, Chairman
AWWA Recycled Water Committee
c/o Las Vegas Valley Water District
1001 South Valley View Blvd.
Las Vegas, NV 89153
Fax: 702-258-7191



Battle Tested Bayonet *By Mike McCullough, NCGA Agronomist*

The recent Buy.com tour event at Bayonet golf course in Seaside was everything a professional golf event should have; great weather, talented field, difficult golf course and a fantastic finish. Now, who really cares who won, how nice the weather was, or who has the best swing on the Buy.com tour? Let's hear about how hard the golf course was set up.

Many of the players had nothing but praise for this hidden gem of a golf course located on the former US Army base. Other players had comments that can't be printed due to the family oriented style of the publication. Several players commented about how the course setup was the most difficult they had seen all year. The tournament scoring average can fortify those statements. The first two-day average was 75.5, compared to the first two days of a Buy.com annual tournament average of 71.7. The final two-day average at Bayonet was 74.4, compared to final two-day tour average of 71.2.

Tyler Dennis, a PGA Tour advance official, said that Bayonet is one of the toughest golf courses the Buy.com players will play all year. Frequently, tournament winners on the Buy.com tour will have winning scores that are near twenty under par. According to Dennis, there are only a handful of events that the winners are in single

digits under par. Dennis stated, "these guys are good players and they will make birdies." So when only three players broke par and the winner of the Monterey Peninsula Classic was only three under par, then obviously the course held its own.

Other PGA Tour officials were overheard saying that this was one of the toughest courses they have seen in their entire career. Both players and officials alike said the course was in absolutely fantastic condition.

PGA Tour agronomist, Harry Schuemann, evaluates playing conditions at tournament venues a week in advance of the event. Schuemann informed event organizers during this visit, the course was in tournament condition. It was a testament to the amount of work put in by Pat Finlen, Director of Maintenance, and Tom Bevan, superintendent and the crew.

Preparations for the event started as early as the third week of June. Some of the larger projects tackled for the event were the installation of new laterals to irrigate areas of rough that were previously barren, enlarged several tee boxes, pruned many, many tree limbs and removed hundreds of tree roots from the fairways.

Everyone did a remarkable

job of getting the course into major championship condition. Players, spectators and even a famous golf commentator verbalized how hard the golf course was set up and playing. Some even mentioned the setup was similar to a very famous course that also hosted a big tournament earlier this summer, Pebble Beach Golf Links.

Two areas that brought most of the attention or scorn, depending upon who you talked to during the week, were the length of the rough and the speed of the greens.

Double-cutting the putting surface every day for ten days prior to the tournament had the players struggling with short shots around the green. The only water the greens received during that time were a short daily syringing the morning prior to play. These practices guaranteed firm and fast conditions for the professionals.

Pool table smooth and parking lot firm, the greens were stimping in the high 10s for the weekend rounds. There was even some mumbling from players that can be only classified as the unpardonable sin of professional golfers: the greens were almost too fast.

One of the more interesting sites during the week of

the Buy.com event was watching the extremely talented players hit out of some very nasty lies as the rough was measured in some locations at over eight inches. Professional golfers affectionately refer to the rough as cabbage.

Personally, I think they need to coin another term, coleslaw. Coleslaw is defined as hitting the ball from one area of cabbage to another area of cabbage on the same hole. I witnessed more cabbage being shredded in one day than a week at the local sauerkraut festival. It's no surprise a couple of players withdrew from the competition due to "wrist injuries" sustained from hitting out of the rough.

Some golf fans might think making the golf course too difficult is not very much fun to watch. However, since the GCSANC had the chance to play the same conditions a few days prior to the event, it was interesting to compare the skill levels and scores of superintendents versus professionals. The professional golfers should have plenty of job security. There were many superintendents and others who couldn't even break a tee much less 80 during the six-hour marathon round.





Season's Greetings



Holiday Greetings to all of our members and a special thanks to our supporters and advertisers over this past year. We hope to see all of you at the Holiday Party and the many events planned for the New 2001 Year.

