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By Lawrence Rake, Las Vegas Sun

Michael Donahue, Director of Maintenance at Arrow Creek CC
Superintendents’ Institute  
2004  
to be held on  
November 8th and 9th  
at the  
Bodega Bay Yacht Club &  
Bodega Bay Golf Links  
GOLF  
Sunday, November 7th and  
Tuesday November 9th  
Reserve directly for discounted rates. Look for details in the Institute Brochure! 

Institute Lodging reservations should be made early  

Inn at the Tides  
800 Coast Hwy 1, Bodega Bay  
(Yacht Club 1/4 mile)  
(800) 541-7788  

Bodega Bay Lodge & Spa  
103 Coast Hwy 1, Bodega Bay  
(Yacht Club 1/2 mile north)  
(707) 875-3525  

Bodega Coast Inn & Suites  
521 Coast Hwy 1, Bodega Bay  
(Yacht Club within walking distance)  
(800) 346-6999  
From $109.00 per night  

The past few months have been busy for all of us. Your board has been busy with the normal events that take place as well as fulfilling a commitment I made at our annual meeting this past January. That commitment was to hold a long-term strategic planning session.

On July 30th of this year, the board, along with four Past-Presidents, met with Hannes Combest of GCSAA. Hannes is the Senior Director of Membership and Professional Development for GCSAA and the facilitator for our meeting. While the day proceeded very quickly, there are many items that will require further meetings and discussions to resolve. Thanks to Bob Lapic and Orinda Country Club for hosting us.

In addition to our meeting, three other chapters in California utilized Hannes during the week for the same purpose. The following week the State Board followed suit with former Chief Operating Officer of GCSAA, Joe O’Brien, coming in to facilitate the state meeting in Ontario.

Why all of the meetings at the local and state levels? I believe it is fair to say that all want their associations to function and perform within a plan. It is out of these meetings that a roadmap for each association can be achieved. In addition, more communication and cooperation between the associations can be achieved when there is a plan to follow.

Other events taking place this summer included the Assistants meeting in July. While attendance was not what it could have been, it did provide a great day for those that participated. Our many thanks go to Bob Costa and Jeff Hardy of Laguna Seca Golf Course for being our hosts for this meeting. In August the annual Scholarship and Research Tournament was held at Santa Rosa Golf & Country Club. While the final numbers are not in yet, I am sure that the end result will match the previous year’s fundraising efforts. Thanks to host superintendent Gill Stiles and Santa Rosa Golf & Country Club.

With the many demands placed upon us with our jobs and family life, it sometimes is tough to take the time to enjoy much of what we take for granted. I hope that each of you takes that time and enjoys the rest of the summer.
Strictly Business

OFFICE NOTES

Barb Mikel,
GCSANC Association Manager

The Bert Graves Memorial Scholarship Tournament was once again a huge success. The functions raised over $11,000.00 net for Scholarship & Research. Many thanks to the Scholarship Committee (Greg Fenald, Len Tallo, Mike Hill and Gill Stiles) for all the hard work. “Kudos” to the affiliate membership for your wonderful support of this event. Golf starting on time (what a first) thanks to the effort of Gill and his pro staff. I couldn’t believe I saw the last cart leave at 10:05!

Greg and crew certainly had the Auction and raffle “organized.” I usually leave the course and return for the after-golf events. This year I walked into the banquet room at Santa Rosa (good job on that one too) to find everyone seated and almost finished with post-game food and beverage! I bet you could see the surprise on my face!

The Santa Rosa Golf & Country Club demonstrated they could handle any emergency we threw at them! Len Tallo placidly sat at the table next to me to “hand in his homework” and politely announced he wasn’t feeling well. I looked up to see a very ashen face and asked, “How not too well do you feel?” His sensible response, “Not good at all, I think you should call the paramedics,” was all that was needed for all to go into action. Downstairs, the paramedics were called. Gill and Stan Konich, Club Manager of Santa Rosa Golf & Country Club returned to take charge. Portable oxygen in place and instructions to “Lie down and get comfortable,” found Len on the floor with pillows, people and a VERY SHORT wait for the Santa Rosa paramedics. Off to the hospital for emergency “repair” and Len is now “tuned up” and back at work. We should be thankful and proud of this entire event!

You will probably get two “Thru the Green” back-to-back this time. The change of publishers had delayed the first issue with the new publisher. Hopefully the MAC vs. Microsoft war is over and we will be back on schedule with the publication. Our apologies for the delay and the “delayed news.”

Job notices are being handled quite economically via email and faxes. A few are still being mailed but I hope to deplete that number shortly. It certainly gives the “competitive edge” when you can receive the notices the same day they are forwarded to the office. ONCE AGAIN. If you want to receive these notices via email then email that information to gcsanc@e-easi.net if you wish them faxed to you, fax me your request and fax number. My computer stores the information without “human intervention” making for a more accurate recording of the email and fax information.

A Strategic Planning session was facilitated by Hannes Combest, CAE of GCSAA, July 30, 2004. A draft of that session was discussed at the board of directors meeting August 25, 2004. Look forward to membership input once finalized. It’s an opportunity for you to have input to the direction of your association for the next 10 years. Membership issues, dues, types of activities will be “on the table.” Stay tuned.

The women were all smiles after receiving ball mark repair tools supplied by the GCSANC. The tools were handed out on the first tee to all juniors and adults playing in the Swing Fore Girls Mentoring Tournament held in Sacramento, CA. The event was a joint effort between the First Tee and the Executive Women’s Golf Association.

(Left) Tyra Jarvis, National President of the Executive Women’s Golf Association accepts a GCSANC Ball Mark Repair Tool from Carol Pence, PGA Growth of the Game Advocate. While on hand for the Swing Fore Girls Mentoring Tournament, Pence distributed GCSANC repair tools to all of the tournament participants. According to Pence, the tools were very well received by both junior and adult players alike.
Michael Donahue
Director of Maintenance
ArrowCreek CC

Employer: ArrowCreek CC
Position: Director of Maintenance
Years in the Golf Business: 20
Previous Employment: Green Gables CC - Denver, CO; The Lakes CC - Palm Desert, CA; Brookshire Golf Club – Williamston, MI
Education: Michigan State University - Turf Management
Other Organizations: GCSAA, SNGCSA
Family: Wife Heather, Daughter Addison (3), Son Gavin (1½)
Interests Outside of Golf: Detroit Redwing Hockey/Family/Football
Favorite Vacation: Visiting family and friends in Michigan
Favorite Course to Play: Pacific Dunes
Course You’d Like to Visit: Any in Ireland
Strangest Thing You’ve Witnessed On The Golf Course: Back to back holes-in-one from players in the same group. One was a great shot; the next was a skull that practically broke the flagstick as it hurtled across the green!
Worst Comment/Question From a Member: 1) The tadpoles in the pond on #10 are at an epidemic proportion! 2) Every sprinkler head yardage marker is always facing a different direction and it is hard to read. Why can’t you get a guy to go out each day to orientate them to face the players? 3) The waterfall behind my house is making too much noise. Can we turn the water down?
What You’d Be Doing If You Weren’t Involved With Golf: Architect

Out for a recent visit to Northern California was high school golfer Austin Bailey with his dad, Senior Writer Mike Bailey, who was on assignment for Golf Week’s SuperNEWS publication. Bailey spent some time with Olympic Club Director of Golf Jim Lucius and toured the Olympic Club courses with GCSANC President Pat Finlen. Bailey’s recent work included writing the Harding Park Field Day story as well as a featured piece on the Lake Merced G&CC water storage distribution system.

Please Come and Join Us!
for Three Days of Get Away!!!
for Our Annual Holiday Party and Monthly Meeting

Room Reservations for December 2-4, 2004 for the December 3, 2004 GCSANC December Meeting at The Portola Plaza – Monterey Bay
Two Portola Plaza
Monterey, California
888-222-5851
See You All There!
Don Naumann
Sierra Pacific Turf Supply

Joe Rodriguez has retired as Superintendent from Rossmoor Golf Course in Walnut Creek. Joe has been at Rossmoor for over 25 years. Joe has served two terms as President of the NCGCSA. He was named Superintendent of the Year in 1990 and in 2001 was named the George Santana Distinguished Service Award winner. Congratulations on your retirement, Joe! Superintendents be aware that he may soon be calling for free golf...Replacing Joe at Rossmoor Golf Course is Blake Swint. Blake is leaving Castlewood Country Club after almost 13 years to replace a legend....The new Superintendent at Castlewood CC is a person familiar with the 680 corridor, Mike Nunemacher. Mike had been the Director of Grounds Maintenance at Blackhawk CC in Danville. Also leaving Blackhawk is Joel Brinkman, Superintendent of the Falls Course. Joel is going to Calabasas Country Club in So. Cal....Tim Greenwald is another recent retiree from Northern California. Tim was the Superintendent at Rancho Canado GC in Carmel. Tim was the host of numerous GCSANC Christmas parties in the past. His boss, Bob Costa will fill his position. Bob will maintain his title of Director of Golf Course Maintenance Operations for the Lombardo Group....Steve Crane has officially been named Superintendent at Shoreline Golf Links in Mountain View. Steve had been the assistant, then interim superintendent until his promotion....Joe Vallaire has been given the title of Superintendent of Palo Alto Municipal Golf Course in Palo Alto. Joe had been the interim superintendent until recently. Joe also recently had an accident on the golf course in which he fell and required 233 stitches. He is recovering fine and will soon be back to normal...
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Thanks To Our Sponsors!
Bert Graves Memorial Scholarship Tournament
Santa Rosa Golf and Country Club - August 5, 2004

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Golf & Prize Donations

Gift Donations
Gallery

Santa Rosa Golf & CC Host 2004 Bert Graves Memorial Scholarship & Research Tournament

Adrian Bertens checks the auction table

Santa Rosa Golf & Country Club

What? Brownlie with ANOTHER check?

Jeff Arneson

John Grant from a sidehill lie

Counting them up

Terry Grasso's silky smooth stroke

Mitch Frasier getting excited

Greg Fernald from Target made it all happen

Warming up at Santa Rosa Golf & CC

The Beautiful Santa Rosa Golf & CC

Warming up at Santa Rosa Golf & CC
Laguna Seca Golf Ranch Host The July GCSANC Meeting

Laguna Seca Golf Ranch

Mike McCullough Promoted The Assistant's Bootcamp

Kevin Eppich Ready To Roll

Gary Carls Discussed GCSAA Affairs

Bob Costa Explained His Safety Program

Speakers Jason Green & Thomas Bastis

Jason Green & Mike Ginelli

Laguna Seca Looked Wonderful

You Shoulda Been at Laguna Seca
You are cordially invited to the inaugural Cal Poly Turfgrass Field Day on Friday, October 1, 2004, at the Environmental Horticultural Science Unit on the Cal Poly campus in San Luis Obispo, CA. Results from current research will be presented from 9:30 A.M. until 12:00 Noon, with complimentary breakfast provided beginning at 8:00 A.M. Focus of the event will be the discussion of anthracnose and dollar spot control and current research on new annual bluegrass cultivars from Penn State. Additionally, our students will be available to discuss research related to their senior projects. Continuing education credits have been applied for with the California Department of Pesticide Regulation for PCAs and Qualified Applicators. Parking permits are required and will be available from students at the parking lots above the sports complex.

Prior to the field day, a wine & cheese reception will be held on Thursday, September 30, 2004, from 6:00 P.M. until 8:00 P.M. at the Cal Poly Crops Lab. We encourage you to bring along your spouse and enjoy San Luis Obispo, CA.

FIELD DAY ITINERARY:

Thursday, September 30th:
5:30 P.M. – 7:30 P.M. Wine & Cheese Reception at the Cal Poly Crops Lab

Friday, October 1st:
8:00 A.M. – 9:30 A.M. Registration & Continental Breakfast at the Cal Poly EHS Unit
9:30 A.M. – 11:45 A.M. Field Day Preparations
   Stop 1: Anthracnose Control - Fungicide efficacy
   Stop 2: Dollar Spot Control - Fungicide efficacy
   Stop 3: Annual Bluegrass Cultivar Evaluation
11:45 A.M. – 12:00 Noon Student Presentations & Discussion

To assist us in organizing this event we would appreciate confirmation of your attendance. Please e-mail or send your name and organization to: Dr. David Green, Horticulture & Crop Science Department, Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, CA 93407 or at degreen@calpoly.edu

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