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One wonders what the weather will bring this summer. At this writing we are well into June and enjoying an extended spring. This year has not been typical with unseasonably cool and wet weather. Come to think of it, what is a "typical" year? There is always some quirk in the weather pattern which gives rise to the comment, "What's up with the weather?" No matter what the weather, superintendents deal with it. Sometimes conditions are favorable and sometimes they are not. That's one of the challenges of this profession. It's never boring.

Let it ride...

A big thank you to the Sierra Nevada GC for hosting this year's California GC Annual Conference and Golf Championship in Reno, Nevada, this past May. This was one of the best attended state conferences in years. Joel Blaker and staff had Old Greenwood in excellent condition for the golf championship. A dusting of snow on the ground did not cool anyone's enthusiasm to play such a gem. Thank you, Joel.

Strategic Plan

The ushering in of the new Board of Directors has necessitated reorganizing the Strategic Plan Committee. To refresh your memory, the strategic plan is being developed to guide the association for the next five years and beyond. Pat Finlen has done a great job in getting our new board members oriented to the strategic planning process.

The six goals of the plan are to: 1) Increase membership, 2) Increase member involvement, 3) Promote the profession to the industry and the public, 4) Develop a financially secure chapter, 5) Develop plan for research and scholarship, 6) Explore development of a web site. Pat has given us our assignments. Stay tuned.

Vendor Support

Thank you to our sponsors who help make our meetings a success: John Parodi of Peterson Tractor for sponsoring the Field Day at Calpine Preserve; Gregg Dunn and Danielle Marman of West Coast Turf for sponsoring the Superintendent-Pro at Half Moon Bay. Our sponsors help make our meetings successful by helping to offset meeting costs, providing educational materials and refreshments. Please lend them your support.

Coming Up

- Assistant Superintendent Meeting - July 18 at San Jose Country Club - Jason Green host Superintendent.
- Scholarship Tournament - August 8 at Stanford Golf Course - Ken Williams, CGCS, host Superintendent
- Oakland A's BBQ - September 29

Benefits of Attending Monthly Meetings

- A chance to gain some perspective on your hard work
- Priceless networking opportunities with your peers
- Continuing education
- Relax and play golf at a great golf course

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You may have seen our work without realizing it around the Bay Area, possibly at Great America or maybe at our State's Capitol in Sacramento and most recently near SBC Park, home of the San Francisco Giants.

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Mark your calendars for The Bert Graves Memorial Scholarship & Research Tournament at Stanford Golf Course August 8. I’m hoping we’ll have a full field turnout for this great venue and this great event. Proceeds from this tournament go to support Mike McCullough’s NCGA turf grass research, Frank Wong’s, Gray Leaf Spot - UC Riverside and GCSAA/CGCSA cooperative research programs and Dr Ali Harivandi of the U.C. Cooperative Extension. Scholarships are awarded to GCSANC members and turf grass students from Northern California using funds provided by this tournament. Students awarded scholarships have become industry leaders. One scholarship recipient is currently serving on the GCSANC Board of Directors.

The California GCSA Annual Meeting in Reno was one of the best I’ve attended. The topics were interesting, even for a non-turf type like me. The venue for the trade show was good and the chance to see and meet with the other regional chapter managers was great. The California GCSA magazine, “California Fairways,” is provided to you as a benefit of your membership in GCSANC. If you aren’t currently receiving it, please give me a call or email. Keeping databases up to date is a constant challenge! On that topic, please make it a point to keep your membership information current. Thanks!

Looking for a way to stretch your education budget? Why not participate in GCSAA’s self study courses. Current, relevant learning that doesn’t require time away from the office or incur travel expenses. To purchase call GCSAA headquarters at (800) 472-7878 or visit the Education section of www.gcsaa.org.

**Online courses**
- Applied Turfgrass Physiology
- Advanced Principles of Insect Pest Management
- Developing Financial Savvy in the Golf Business
- Golf Course Weed Management - Beyond the Basics
- Remodeling 101 -- Why Remodel? Examining and Evaluating Your Facility
- Responsible Pesticide Use in Golf Course Management
- Risk Management and Communication for Golf Course Superintendents
- Understanding Insect Pests on Golf Courses
- W.A.T.E.R. for Efficient Water Management
- Weather Basics

**Text-based courses**
- Applied Turfgrass Physiology
- Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know
- Golf Course Weed Management - Beyond the Basics
- Hazard Communication
- Media Relations
- Personal Protective Equipment for Pesticide Applicators
- Personal Stress Management
- Responsible Pesticide Use in Golf Course Management
- Risk Communication
- Time Management
- Underground Storage Tank Monitoring and Recordkeeping
Jason Green
Golf Course Superintendent

Employer: San Jose Country Club
Position: Golf Course Superintendent
Years in the Golf Business: 20
Previous Employment: Assistant at Los Altos Golf & CC
Education: BS Ornamental Horticulture w/ concentration in Turfgrass Management – Cal Poly SLO
GCSANC Work or Interests: 2nd year Board Member – currently Sec/Tres.
Other Organizations: 2 4WD Clubs, 2 Dirt Bike Clubs
Family: Single and enjoying life
Interests Outside of Golf: Four Wheeling, Camping, Dirt Bike, Mountain Bike, Fishing, (just about anything outdoors)
Favorite Vacation: Annual week long camping trip where I do everything above
Favorite Course to Play: Lahontan Golf Club
Course You'd Like to Visit: Pine Valley

Strangest Thing You've Witnessed On The Golf Course: An 8" steel 45 elbow flying 15' in the air when the irrigation main line was turned back on too quickly after a repair and the air was not purged properly.

Worst Comment/Question From a Member: "When are you going to mow the Greens?" or "The person who changed the pins today should be fired!" (That would be me) or the most annoying "The bunkers are too inconsistent!"

What You'd Be Doing If You Weren't Involved With Golf: Viticulture/Wine making.
Mike Basile has accepted the Superintendent of Golf Maintenance Operations position at Coyote Creek GC in San Jose, replacing Mike Higuera Sr. Perry Tarisiano is still the superintendent on the Tournament Course. Matt Wisely is the new superintendent at Santa Clara Golf & Tennis Club. Matt has been the superintendent at Tilden Park GC in Berkeley. Jonathon Ivory has been promoted to superintendent at Marin CC in Novato. Jon was the assistant there under Scott Stambaugh before his promotion. Tom Huesgen leaving Pebble Beach GL has started a nice chain reaction within the Pebble Beach Company. Chris Dalhamer has left Spyglass Hill GC and is now the new superintendent at Pebble Beach. Replacing Chris at Spyglass is Bob Yeo. Bob had been the superintendent at Spanish Bay. Accepting the superintendent position at Spanish Bay is Jeff Steen. Jeff was the assistant superintendent at Pebble under Tom Huesgen.

Distinguished Service Award Nominations

GCSAA is now accepting nominations from GCSAA members, affiliated chapters and qualified golf associations for the 2006 GCSAA Distinguished Service Award (DSA).

NOMINATIONS

All nominations and letters of support must be submitted by Sept. 1, 2005, on the official nomination form (online or PDF). Feel free to make additional copies of this form, or contact GCSAA Member Solutions at (800) 472-7878, if you need additional forms.

Nomination forms should be sent to:
Heidi Elser
GCSAA
1421 Research Park Drive
Lawrence, KS 66049

ABOUT THE AWARD

The award is presented to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the advancement of the golf course superintendent's profession. The contribution must be significant in both substance and duration. The contribution may be, or have been, regional in nature. The nominee must not have been a recipient of this award in the preceding 10 years.

The GCSAA Board of Directors will select the recipient(s) of the 2006 Distinguished Service Award during the Fall Board Meeting. The award will be presented at the Golf Industry Show in New Orleans February 2006.

Results – Superintendent/Pro - June 13 - Half Moon Bay Golf Links - Ocean

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<tr>
<th>Supt/Pro Team</th>
<th>Low Pro</th>
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<th>Low Amateur</th>
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<td>Santa Rosa G &amp; C.C.</td>
<td>Ridgemark G.C.</td>
<td>Santa Rosa G &amp; C.C.</td>
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<td>2. David Hayes / Holly Juergens</td>
<td>John Hughes</td>
<td>David Hayes</td>
<td>Tom Ott</td>
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<td>Salinas Golf &amp; C.C.</td>
<td>Castlewood. C.C.</td>
<td>Salinas Golf &amp; C.C.</td>
<td>Colony Landscape</td>
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<td>3. Jason Green / Marc Braga</td>
<td>Holly Juergens</td>
<td>Cory Isom</td>
<td>Gabe Sanchez</td>
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<td>San Jose C.C.</td>
<td>Salinas Golf &amp; C.C.</td>
<td>Cordevalle G.C.</td>
<td>J.Arnaz Tree Movers</td>
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4th Annual Assistant Superintendent Meeting and Golf Tournament

This year’s meeting will be held at San Jose Country Club and promises to be the best Assistant’s Meeting yet. The format is as follows:

- Continental Breakfast
- Industry Speakers
  - Gary Carls, Dir. GCSAA – Discusses the Asst. Supt. Resource Group at GCSAA
  - Jeff Steen, Supt. Spanish Bay Golf Course – Discusses Bridging the Gap Between Supt. And Crew
  - Pat Gross, USGA Green Section – USGA Agronomy Update
- BBQ Lunch
- Golf Tournament
- Refreshments on the Course (Soda’s and Beer)
- Hosted Bar and Prizes after Golf

This $60.00 all-inclusive program is a screaming deal thanks to our Sponsors: Mike Ravel @ Verdicon, Sal Sorbello @ Reed and Danny Ramos @ DHR Construction.

Come meet, eat, drink and golf with your fellow Assistants. All GCSANC members are invited and encouraged to attend.
STATE MEETING, RENO

A modest Pete Bowman
A smiling Cordie Morgan with his award
Ronnie Rogers shows off his booth

Frank Wong with Mike Hill
Jim Stone with his prize
San Diego's Dave Buckles was a winner

Old Greenwood
“The Old Greenwood Crew”
STATE MEETING, RENO

(L to R) Jim Husting (CGCS)–Government Relations Committee Chairman, Gill Stiles–GCSANC Vice President, Jim Ferrin (CGCS)–SNGCSA President, Peter Bowman (CGCS) with Sierra Pacific Turf Supply

Conference Speaker Peter McCormick, Founder and Editor of Turfnet.com catches up on industry news while visiting with GCSANC Association Manager Barbara Mikel

Mr. and Mrs. Tillema take a brief moment out for a photo at the State Conference in Reno, NV

(L to R) California GC SA President Pat Finlen (CGCS of the Olympic Club, Kevin Breen (CGCS) of Lahontan Golf Club, state conference speaker Bradley Klein, Ph.D., Editor of Golfweek's SuperNews, and GCSAA Director Gary Carls with the City Sunnyvale Golf Division

Gill Stiles, Jason Green, Greg Dunn, Mike Sousa. The California GC SA conference at Harrah's om Reno, NV, was the perfect setting for camaraderie among association members.
SIX PRINCIPLES FOR LANDSCAPE WASTE REDUCTION

As our communities strive to find new ways to reduce waste, green industry professionals can play an important role by reducing the quantity of waste they generate at the job site. As many landscape professionals know, this can be accomplished through adopting one or more of the following “Principles” for landscape waste reduction.

Healthy soil
Good soil supports healthy plant growth and diminishes the need for excessive irrigation and fertilization. A good soil consists of soil clusters (aggregates), air space, and organic matter holding a variety of important micro-nutrients. In combination, these factors produce a soil that retains moisture, soil air, and nutrients that will support healthy growth of the landscape. Healthy soil must be created and maintained. By adding compost (humus) or by mulching, poor soil can be transformed over time into a healthier growing medium for landscaping.

Use waste efficient/low maintenance landscaping
Select slow growth plantings that require less maintenance. How do you find slow growth plants? Drought tolerant plants, by their nature, are also slow growth and produce less waste. Consult the “Water Use Classification of Landscape Species” (WUCOLS) list to determine which drought tolerant varieties will grow best in your region. In addition to selecting slow growth/drought tolerant plants, consider placement and spacing. Don’t place plantings in tight spaces where minimal growth will require pruning. Proper spacing between plants allows more natural growth, minimizing the need for excessive pruning.

Irrigate efficiently and limit fertilization
Excessive watering and fertilization results in faster growth, requiring more maintenance and disposal of waste. Use water-efficient irrigation equipment such as drip or low output sprinkler heads and water landscaping according to specific needs. Also use the needs of landscaping to determine how much and when to fertilize. Normally, moderate applications of fertilizers in spring and fall are all that is needed to support healthy and attractive growth.

Shred and mulch!
Using shredded green waste as a mulch makes a lot of sense, especially if you have a large quantity of green waste material with wood content. Mulching provides a variety of benefits, including weed prevention, moisture retention, mud abatement, and erosion control. As an added benefit, when the mulch decomposes, it will help condition the soil and add nutrients.

Prune conservatively
A large contributor of waste is excessive and haphazard pruning of shrubs and trees. Pruning should be limited to maintain controlled but natural growth patterns. “Topping” or “shearing” where large quantities of material are removed is wasteful and unhealthy. It also will encourage new and excessive growth.

Limit turf areas
Grass lawns are heavy contributors of waste, especially during the warmer months. Lawns also require large amounts of water. By removing or reducing turf areas, maintenance, waste disposal, and irrigation requirements can be reduced. Removal of small, irregular shaped turf areas eliminates difficult mowing transitions which results in easier maintenance. Replace grass with slow-growth, drought tolerant ground covers for attractive landscaping with significantly lower maintenance requirements and costs.

Local government and waste management agencies are working hard to find solutions for cutting waste. Landscape generated waste continues to be a significant part of waste sent to the landfill. Contra Costa, Napa, and Solano Counties have joined with the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) to form the Landscape Management Outreach Partnership (LMOP). The partnership’s goal is to promote the practices described here to assist professional landscapers and other large generators to reduce waste. If you would like additional information on green waste reduction, please contact the Partnership at (925) 906-1801. For additional information about green waste reduction, visit the CIWMB website at http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/organics/