

# ThruTheGreen

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California



Lake Merced Golf Club Hole #16

## COVER

Lake Merced Golf Club

## FEATURES

- 5 Host Profile  
Lou Tonelli
- 6 GCSANC Distributes Free  
Ball Mark Repair Tools at  
Play Golf America Day
- 9 Affiliate Profile  
John Holmquist

## CONTENTS

### STRICTLY BUSINESS

- 3 President's Message
- 4 Office Notes
- 6 Naumann's NorCal News

### GALLERY

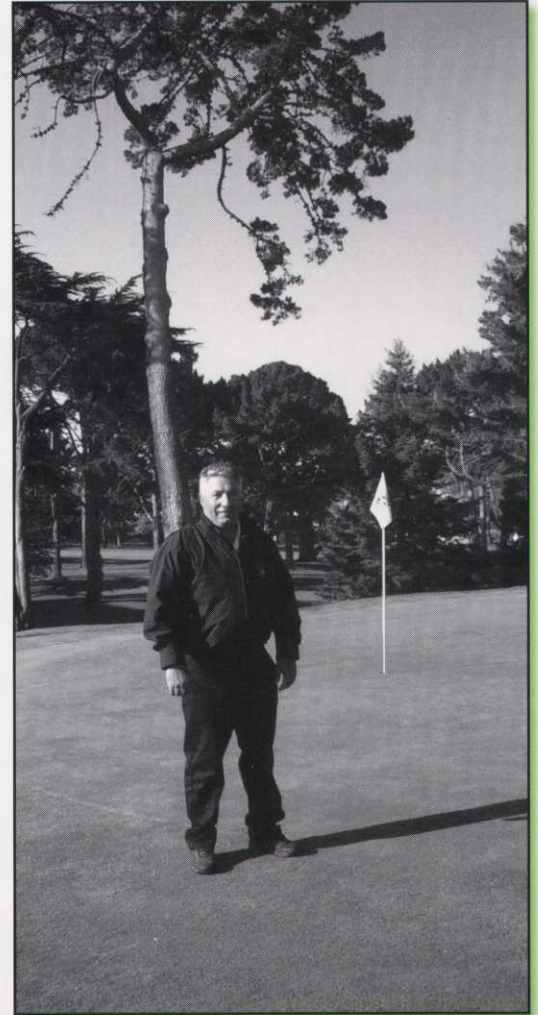
- 8 Photo Gallery

### CALENDAR

- 10 Events Calendar

### MARKETPLACE

- 14 Advertisement  
Marketplace



Lou Tonelli at Lake Merced Golf Club  
Hole #15

### ThruTheGreen

Published bimonthly by the  
Golf Course Superintendents  
Association of Northern California

#### EDITOR

Kenneth D. Williams, CGCS

#### PUBLISHER

Man-Yin Tang

#### ASSOCIATION MANAGER

Barbara Mikel

#### MEDIA

Emmy Moore Minister  
Media Relations Consultant

For those of you that could not attend, The Annual CGCSA meeting in Temecula was a great success. We had a wonderful location and with the exception of a few raindrops Monday, the weather could not have been better. The San Diego chapter did a wonderful job. We had some very good speakers dealing with topics such as nozzle technology, stress and even a weatherman to completely confuse us about our weather. The facility could not have been better; I could walk out the back door of my hotel room right onto the first tee.

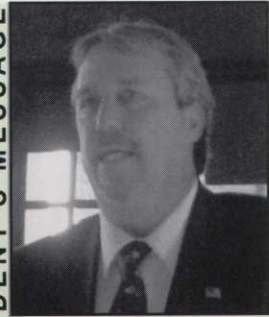
A special thanks goes out to Mark Grund for all his hard work, not only on this event but also for his years of service to the State Board of Directors. As the Southern California affiliate, Mark has been a driving force behind our wonderful California Hospitality Suite the last few years and a huge factor in the success of the State Association. Now retiring from the Board, he will be missed greatly. In addition, I would like to thank all the vendors for their participation, without them we could not have such wonderful events.

As we move into summer, hopefully everyone has caught up after our late start to the season. The GCSANC Board is putting the finishing touches on the Compensation Survey and will have it out soon.

Mark you calendars for Monday, August 14<sup>th</sup>. Lou Tonelli will be hosting our Scholarship and Research Tournament at Lake Merced Golf Club. This is a great venue plus you might want to call Lou a get a tour of the new Golf Course Maintenance facility completed last year by DBD Structures. If you have some gems for the auction, please contact John Holmquist or Craig Zellers. Hopefully we can raise a lot of money for our scholarship and research funds. Remember the format is a vendor/superintendent team, so contact your favorite salesman or saleswomen and get your team together.

I hope everyone is able to enjoy the summer and look forward to seeing you all at our next meeting.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



**Gill Stiles**  
Santa Rosa Golf & CC

## JOHN ARNAZ TREE MOVERS



**Our secret for success!**

**We guarantee the success of the tree transplant for up to one year or we'll transplant another in its place!**

Photo taken of tree transplant at Cypress Point Country Club (Rated #1 Golf Course in California)

- **65" and 90" hydraulic tree spades**  
Allow for the transplanting of any tree without damaging the fragile root system...successfully!!!
- **Serviced 51 bay area golf courses**  
Our first golf course was Ridgemark in 1972, over 30 years ago!
- **Proud member of the GCSANC**  
John Arnaz supports and contributes to the GCSANC since 2000.

*Call John Arnaz and let the TREE PROS perform their tree moving magic on your next project!"*

1593 Koch Lane ■ San Jose ■ California ■ Ph: (408)266-1717 ■ Fx: (408)264-1717

Visit us on the web: [www.treemovingexperts.com](http://www.treemovingexperts.com)

State Contractor Lic. # 472305

## Strictly Business



OFFICE NOTES

**Barb Mikel,**  
GCSANC Association Manager

The May 2006 meeting of the California Golf Course Superintendents in Temecula is history and was historic also. It actually rained in Temecula for the education sessions! But overall, this was a very good venue for the CGCSA Annual Meeting.

Water and environmental issues continue to be the focus of the golf industry for the future of the game. The "About Face" article by Hope Yu, Environmental Specialist for the City of Golden, Co., pleasantly surprised me. (Find it in the "On the Road" Quarterly Bulletin <http://www.ncga.org/turf/onroad.htm> April 2006) It quotes an actual study of Fossil Trace Golf Club. This club was built on the site of an old mining operation and the article concludes that the course and its management practices actually create a desirable environmental and water asset for the community!

The "French Solution" to water issues was another surprise. (GCSAA Newsweekly [http://www.gcsaa.org/newsweekly/this\\_week/divmix.asp](http://www.gcsaa.org/newsweekly/this_week/divmix.asp)) The R&A is reporting that irrigation to greens on French golf courses is now guaranteed even during drought conditions. Questions are asked about water source, storage capability and the implementation of water use economy measures. Further it questions potential pollution sources, details of chemicals used to treat turf and other methods employed for dealing with pests, diseases and weeds. I believe a well-served golf industry would utilize financial resources to accomplish the needed studies by unimpeachable researchers to confirm best management practices. Not to do so invites other than rational investigators to substitute opinions & speculation.

## Unexpected Results Reported During 2006 Disease Update

### *At PACE Turfgrass Research Institute Seminar*

Surprising research results on gray leaf spot on turf and a new annual bluegrass disease were discussed at the PACE Turfgrass Research Institute's 10th Annual Turfgrass Research Seminar held April 7th in San Diego, CA. Findings, presentations and handouts from the seminar are available on the PACE Member Edition's website. Non-members may sample the website through a free three-week trial membership available at [www.paceturf.org](http://www.paceturf.org).

Dr. Frank Wong of the University of California addressed 145 turf managers in a presentation update on disease management. He said there were several areas in which his research yielded some unexpected results:

The genetic diversity of gray leaf spot isolates from the western

*(Continued on page 14)*

Delivering Value

## Developing Great Relationships

*Target Specialty Products has delivered value to golf course superintendents for over 35 years. We deliver value in the form of:*

### Complete Product Line including:

- Fertilizers
- Herbicides
- Fungicides
- Insecticides
- Spray Equipment
- Safety Equipment
- Soil Conditioners & Amendments



### Seminars & Training

### Written Recommendations



Call Target Specialty Products for all your turf pest management needs.

### Target Specialty Products

San Jose, CA  
800-767-0719

W. Sacramento, CA  
800-533-0816

Visit us on the Web at: [www.target-specialty.com](http://www.target-specialty.com)



SUPER PROFILE

**Lou Tonelli**  
*Golf Course Superintendent*  
Lake Merced Golf Club

**Name:** Lou Tonelli

**Employer:** Lake Merced Golf Club

**Position:** Golf Course Superintendent

**Years in the Golf Business:** 41

**Previous Employment:** California Golf Club

**Education:** College of San Mateo, Extension Program,  
U.C. Davis

**GCSANC Involvement:** Meeting Host, Award Winner!

**Family:** Wife, Melba; Daughters, Gina, Lisa and Son  
Marco

**Interests Outside of Golf:** Training Point Dogs for  
Competition

**Favorite Vacation:** Tahiti

**Course You'd Like to Visit:** Winged Foot

**Strangest Thing You've Witnessed On The Golf  
Course:** Watching red tail hawks train their offspring

**Worst Comment/Question From a Member:** If you  
can do anything, why can't you change the weather?

**What You'd Be Doing If You Weren't Involved With  
Golf:** Training dogs

## Lake Merced Golf Club to Host the 2006 Bert Graves Memorial Scholarship Tournament

Our sincere thanks to Lou Tonelli, the members and management of Lake Merced Golf Club for hosting this event August 19, 2006. Continuation of Scholarship, Research and Education programs supported by GCSANC are possible due to funds raised at this Tournament.

Due to the whole hearted support of the Affiliate Members (who first brought the concept of the Scholarship Tournament to the GCSANC board of directors), Superintendent participation and donations we have been able to continue our funding of turfgrass student education and research projects, which directly benefit the maintenance of golf courses throughout northern California.

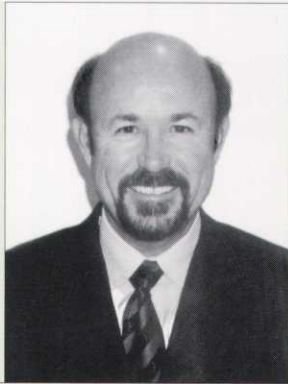
Remember this is an affiliate/superintendent team tournament. So pick your partners and get ready for a premier event!



Lou Tonelli in front of the Clubhouse



Lake Merced Golf Club Turf Facility built by DBD Structures



NAUMANN'S NORCAL NEWS

**Don Naumann**  
Sierra Pacific Turf Supply

**Bernie Holloway** has left Roddy Ranch GC and is the new superintendent at Pleasanton Fairgrounds Golf Course and Practice Facility.....Replacing Bernie at Roddy Ranch GC is **Ryan Zuelsdorf**, who was actually the superintendent there before Bernie .....**Troy Flanagan** is leaving Round Hill CC in Alamo to become the new superintendent at Anthem CC in Henderson, Nevada. Replacing Troy is **Dean Carvahlo**. Dean was the assistant at Round Hill before leaving for Los Angeles Country Club for the past six months. Dean now returns to his old stomping grounds.....

## GCSANC Distributes Free Ball Mark Repair Tools at Play Golf America Day

*By Emmy Moore Minister*

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California (GCSANC) made their presence known by distributing free ball mark repair tools at the 2006 California PGA Play Golf America Day at Haggin Oaks Golf Complex in Sacramento, CA. This free golf event, the largest of its kind in the nation, attracted more than 1200 golf enthusiasts. Participants received not only a free ball mark repair tool, but also free golf lessons, a free golf club from Wilson Golf, and 9-holes of complimentary golf on the Arcade Creek Golf Course. The day supported the nationwide Play Golf America Initiative ([www.playgolfamerica.com](http://www.playgolfamerica.com)) designed for first-time golfers and former players wanting to return to the sport.

Representing the GCSANC at the event was Affiliate Board Member John Holmquist, Regional Sales Manager with Horizon Turf. Holmquist, along with Sam Samuelson, CGCS, Host Superintendent at Haggin Oaks Golf Complex, manned the CGCSA booth where they greeted golf enthusiasts and demonstrated proper ball mark repair technique. Additional ball mark repair demonstration took place on the practice putting green. Accompanied with handy instructions, the repair tools were also distributed to golfers teeing off on the Arcade Creek Golf Course. All repair tools distributed at Play Golf America Day



*(Continued on page 12)*

**www.lesco.com**

Your 24/7 source for everything you need  
to keep your course beautiful

- Anaheim
- Roseville
- Palm Desert
- San Diego
- Petaluma
- San Jose
- Rancho Cordova
- Upland

Log onto [www.lesco.com](http://www.lesco.com) to find  
the location nearest you or call  
**800.321.5325**

# LESCO®

LESCO is a registered trademark of LESCO Technologies, LLC

## CHAPTERS PROVIDE A SAFETY NET FOR THEIR MEMBERS IN TIMES OF NEED

Word spread quickly amongst the Iowa Golf Course Superintendents Association members. One of their own needed help. The maintenance facility at Spring Lakes Golf Club in Fort Madison, Iowa had burned down. So, the chapter did what most of us would expect – they lent a hand, or in this case many hands! With the help of chapter members, Brad Wade's facility was rebuilt. Members lent equipment until Wade could get back on his feet.

Jeff Wendel, CGCS, executive director of the Iowa GCSA said, "We had a great turnout. The guys really came through. Iowa GCSA has no official 'member help' fund, or policy, but I wouldn't say I was surprised by members' behavior. This is what we do," Wendel said.

Chapters are often a safety net for their members. Although members may not expect to turn to their chapter for support, it is something that most GCSAA-affiliated chapters will tell you is available when needed.

### **Chapters offer a sense of community**

The Finger Lakes Association of GCS is a tight knit group of superintendents located in the Rochester area of New York. Chapter members were shocked last year when they learned of the death of Matthew J. Hahn, Superintendent at Blue Heron Hills Country Club and Chapter Treasurer. The Finger Lakes Association of GCS members immediately came to the assistance of Hahn's family - through the benevolence fund, and later through a tournament that raised \$14,000 to establish a trust fund for Hahn's children.

The chapter extended its sense of community, not only to Matthew Hahn's family, but to his golf course as well. Greg Klem, Finger Lakes Association of GCS president said, "As a board, we informed the club that they didn't need to rush into any decision on hiring a new superintendent. We wanted to honor Matt's memory by taking care of his golf course, until a suitable candidate was presented." The Finger Lakes members took turns checking in on the crew at Blue Heron Hills and lending a hand when needed. Six months after Hahn passed away, the club hired a new superintendent. All agree that it is a good fit.

### **Communication is often key**

The stories above reflect how chapter members reach out to each other in extraordinary circumstances. When a fellow member is struggling with the aftermath of a natural disaster, or sadly, if a colleague passes away, the path we take to help seems simple. What happens when we know of someone who is stricken by illness? While chapters often step in to offer support, GCSAA, if informed of the situation, can take steps to help as well. If members are unable to work due to illness, GCSAA can place their membership in an inactive status. This would allow them to stay in touch with GCSAA, and enjoy the same benefits as before, while not having to keep up with their renewal requirements. Chapters can help their members by notifying GCSAA when a member needs assistance.

Members matter most. Together, GCSAA and chapters can ensure that members' best interests are top priority.

## 2006 PACE TURFGRASS RESEARCH SEMINAR RESULTS

### *Turf Precision Management is the 21st Century's IPM*

Turf precision management helps turf managers gain greater control and better results. This approach, which is based on the concept of managing turf on the smallest reasonable scale, was the central theme of the PACE Turfgrass Research Institute's 10th Annual Turfgrass Research Seminar held April 7th in San Diego and attended by 145 managers of turf. Findings, presentations and handouts from the seminar are available on the PACE Member Edition's website. Non-members may sample the website through a free three-week trial membership available at [www.paceturf.org](http://www.paceturf.org).

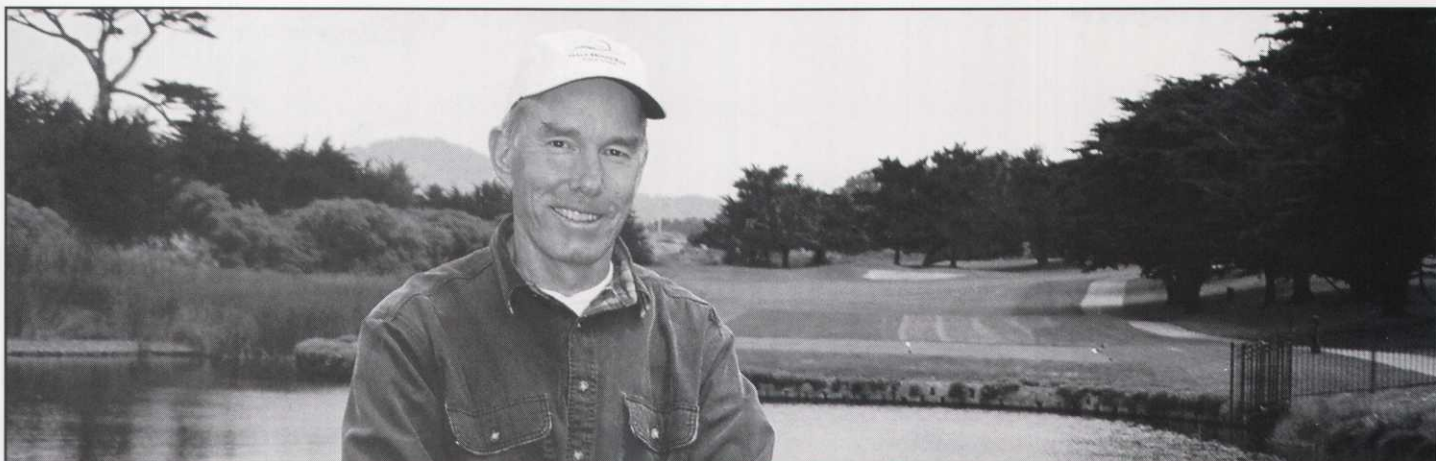
GPS (global positioning systems) and GIS (geographic information systems) can and should be used in conjunction with sensors that monitor soil moisture and turf quality, said PACE Research Director Dr. Larry Stowell. The precision tools used in combination move turf management programs beyond IPM and beyond best management practices. They have proven effective in helping resolve problems that include irrigation distribution, soil moisture variability and white grub infestations.

A camera is an often forgotten, but invaluable precision tool for documenting problems, techniques and progress toward turf management goals, Stowell said. In addition, the rise of digital photography makes it possible for turf managers to communicate easily with one another via photographic images. Techniques for taking photos, formatting them for digital use and for uploading them onto PACE website's Photo Gallery (a resource of more than 500 turfgrass photos available on the PACE Public website) were reviewed and are available at [www.paceturf.org](http://www.paceturf.org).

Achieving firmer greens has always been a dilemma and is a problem tackled by PACE Research Director Dr. Wendy Gelernter. Though

*(Continued on page 13)*

## Gallery



Dan Miller at Half Moon Bay Golf Links (Half Moon Bay, CA) was recently Host Superintendent for the final round match of the 2006 TV Team Golf Championship. The team event, sponsored by the Northern California Toyota Dealers, will be airing on Fox Sports Net this summer and fall.



Gill Stiles, Santa Rosa Golf & Country Club and Greg Fernald of Target Specialty Products review the donated equipment for the troops.

Participants at the Superintendent / Pro Tournament at Sonoma Golf Club donated hundreds of golf balls and clubs for U.S. troops.

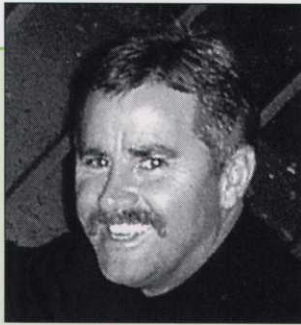
More on this outpouring of generosity in the next issue of **ThruTheGreen**



Steve Byrne of Mira Vista CC sorts additional equipment.



Gill Stiles, President of GSANC arrives with a truck-load of donations.



AFFILIATE PROFILE

**John Holmquist**  
*Regional Sales*  
Horizon Turf

**Name:** John Holmquist

**Employer:** Horizon Turf

**Position:** Regional Sales

**Years in the Business:** 25

**Previous Employment:** Rain Bird, Oase Pumps, KKW  
Manufacturer Representative

**Education:** Bellarmine San Jose Canada College, Redwood  
City, University of Moguls - Steamboat Springs, Colorado

**GCSANC Work or Interests:** Board of directors both State  
(CGCSA) and Local (GCSANC)

**Family:** Traci 21 years, Nicole 17, Alyssa 14, Jackson 9

**Outside Interests:** T & B, fishing, camping, cooking, MLB

**Favorite Vacation:** Family vacation in Italy

**Course You'd Like to Visit:** Cabo del Sol again!

**Strangest Thing You've Witnessed On The Golf Course:**

A guy throwing his clubs in a lake during a real bad round only to come back 15 minutes later to dive down and get them to retrieve his wallet and keys only to throw the clubs back in after that. No it wasn't me!

**Worst Comment/Question From a Member or Superintendent:** No comment...I take the 5<sup>th</sup>!

**What You'd Be Doing If You Weren't Involved With Horizon:** Fishing for Dorado on a boat in Baja

## THE NATIONAL TURFGRASS RESEARCH INITIATIVE

*Kevin N. Morris*

President, National Turfgrass Federation

The turfgrass industry encompasses 50,000,000 acres in the U.S. with an estimated annual value of \$40 - 60 million. With its tremendous growth in the last 15-20 years and with U.S. society becoming more health conscious, the turfgrass industry is increasingly scrutinized and criticized for its use of water, pesticides, and fertilizer. Reducing these inputs is critically important for the survival of the industry. In addition, turfgrass has many positive benefits to society, such as protecting soil and water, providing safe playing surfaces for children, and heat reduction in urban areas.

- To address these concerns while documenting and improving upon turfgrass' benefits to society and the environment, the National Turfgrass Research Initiative (NTRI) has been developed.
- NTRI proposes a \$32.4 million turfgrass research program within the Federal Government's USDA, Agricultural Research Service (ARS).
- NTRI addresses the national concerns facing the turf industry by hiring federal researchers and providing funding to universities for cooperative, team research.
- NTRI emphasizes basic research--long-term, risky and expensive research unlikely to be conducted by state universities and private companies.
- The basic research that NTRI conducts will best address those critical issues and needs while improving turfgrass science.

The complete report of this research and many other reports can be found at USGA's *Turfgrass and Environmental Research Online*:

<http://usgatero.msu.edu>

The specific URL for this report is:

<http://usgatero.msu.edu/v05/n10.pdf>.



## Events



**July 26**

Crew Appreciation  
A's vs Red Sox

**August 14**

Scholarship/Research  
Lake Merced Golf Course

**September**

Joint Meeting  
Sierra Nevada Host

**October 3**

Assistant Meeting/ NCGA  
Boot Camp

**November 6**

Superintendent's Institute

## FOR SALE

Jacobsen HR5111 Rotary Rough Mower  
5000 Hours, 3000 Hours on Engine  
Need Some Work  
\$1,200.00 or Best Offer

Jacobsen ST5111 Fairway Mower  
8000 Hours, 3000 Hours on Engine  
Needs Some Work  
\$1,200.00 or Best Offer

For More Information Please Contact:  
Mike Souza  
**(510) 232-1086**  
mzouzarcc@sbcglobal.net

**BEST**

**Micro 10<sup>®</sup>  
Green**

**10-4-16 w/3% Fe**

**100% HOMOGENEOUS**  
100 SGN Pellets with 3% Fe

**100% PREDICTABLE**  
You know how it works

**100% EFFECTIVE**  
Waters in easily and responds rapidly

**100% AVAILABLE**  
Immediately available and in stock

PROFESSIONAL GRADE FERTILIZER

## TURF TIME WEST KEEPS YOUR TURF HEALTHY!

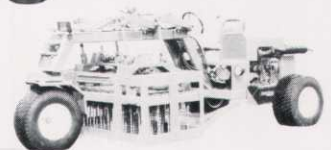
Greens • Tee Boxes • Fairways

Our deep drill aerification process promotes a healthy root system, increases oxygen level in soil, increases water percolation, and relieves compacted soil. Easy clean up.



We have 5 Deep Drill and Fill machines. The holes are filled with the amendment of your choice.

We have 5 Deep Drill machines. 18 greens can be aerified in one day. Fast heal time.



Experience • Service • Proven Results  
Drilling since 1993



Turf Time West Deep Drill Aerification  
Larry Lane, owner  
1.800.994.0004  
For additional information visit our web site at [www.turftime.net](http://www.turftime.net)