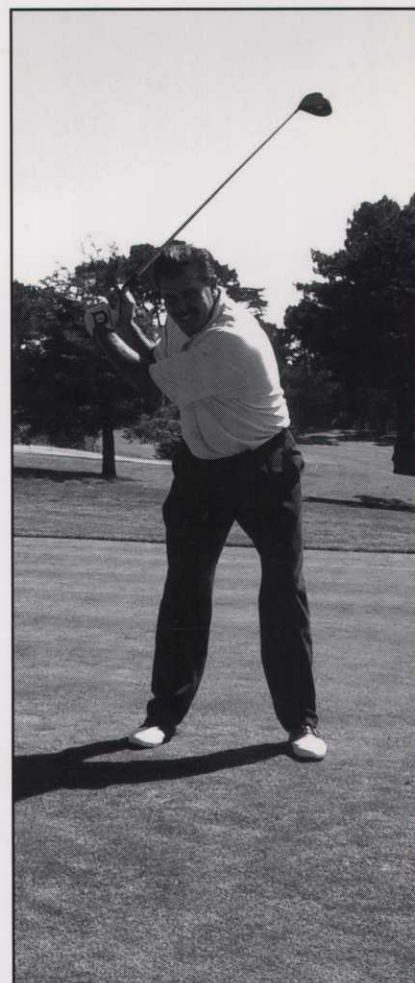


# ThruTheGreen

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California



Scott Dickson, Superintendent, Saddle Creek Resort



Mike Ligon of H.V. Carter Co. demonstrates the backswing at Lake Merced Golf Club

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It's hard to believe another year is almost gone. Registration for the 2007 Golf Industry Show has begun, and our Chapter is looking forward and planning for next year. We are looking for people with an interest in serving on the Board of Directors and to serve on committees in 2007. If you have an interest in serving please contact a board member to get you name included on the ballot. This is also the time of year when GCSAA asks for volunteers to serve on committees. I have served on committees on the national level for several years and I encourage everyone to take this opportunity to give back to our association. Trust me; the experience is truly rewarding.

In October, GCSAA Chapter Delegates from all over the country meet in Kansas City, for the 2006 Chapter Delegates Meeting. This is our opportunity to discuss issues that affect all members with the GCSAA Board of Directors. This year, dues increases and Board of Director's perks were high on the agenda. Thanks to all of you that gave us feedback to take to the board. Look for the results of this meeting to be posted on the GCSAA website.

As 2006 comes to a close, I would like to thank all our members and especially the members of our board. I have enjoyed my time as President and feel fortunate to have such a strong group of people working to improve and lead our chapter into the future. I have learned a great deal from this experience. Spending time with such an intelligent, professional and forward thinking group is something I will carry with me throughout my career.

I have to make one correction to my last article. When talking about our Benevolent Fund I mistakenly wrote that the "opt in" selection on our dues renewal was for \$5 it is actually \$25. Members can donate any amount they want, however if you chose the automatic "opt in" option it is for \$25. I look forward to seeing everyone at our annual meeting January 15 at Santa Rosa Golf & Country Club.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



**Gill Stiles**  
Santa Rosa Golf & CC

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## Strictly Business



OFFICE NOTES

**Barb Mikel,**  
GCSANC Association Manager

This time of the year, hopefully the superintendents who've been "putting out fires" are finally catching up. You know you have survived the summer, when you can actually find your desktop! Unfortunately mine is beginning to get covered. October begins my "putting out fires" season.

GCSANC like all organizations has become more automated and Internet dependent. Online meeting registrations, online applications for membership, position availability postings, and credit card payments are some of the things we handle online. Unfortunately, things like the Internet, email, cell phones, remote access, etc. seem to make business and personal life merge together in a big blur. It's both good and bad for all of us. One note, please check your Junk filters and personal email software to make sure you don't block the Association email addresses and links to various survey sites or other web pages. I receive emails requesting payment receipts from our online credit card processing. Since that is automatic from the credit card company you need to make sure, they are not in the junk or blocked list as well.

This year we have undertaken more email communication and membership surveying. We can get to you faster and get answers quicker if we have current information. As we continue the implementation of Internet based communication activities, it is more vital than ever to have your correct email and telephone information. Please make sure we have all your permanent information (address, telephone, emails, cell phone numbers, and fax numbers.) The more correct information we have, the more likely we can reach you in some fashion.

We have implemented a method of automatic updating by using the Plaxo web based software. You may have already received a request for updated information. I have received replies from many. If you see the request from Plaxo, please participate!

Your membership renewal questionnaire will be arriving in November. Please take the time and carefully complete all the information.



Bob Livesey, CGCS and Jim Bantrup were waiting for the Program at Saddle Creek Resort

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## GCSANC Quick Profile

**Name:** Todd Cook

**Employer:** Poppy Ridge Golf Course

**Position:** Superintendent

**Years in the Golf Business:** 28

**Previous Employment:** Ocean Course Supt.,  
The Olympic Club

**Education:** AAS from Lake City community  
College, Lake City, FL

**Family:** Wife Carolyn, three grown children

**Interests Outside of Golf:** Gardening, My  
El Camino

**Favorite Vacation:** Kauai', Hawaii

**Favorite Course to Play:** Pacific Dunes

**Course You'd Like to Visit:** Pine Valley

**Strangest Thing You've Witnessed On The  
Golf Course:** A Smithco bunker rake floating in  
Lake Tahoe, with engine running, next to #17 at  
Edgewood Tahoe.

**Worst Comment/Question From a Member:**  
Can't we just put a tarp over it, to keep the course  
dry?

**What You'd Be Doing If You Weren't Involved  
With Golf:** I'd be an accountant in Elko, NV

# Poppy Ridge Golf Course



## Golf Course Superintendents Institute

**Sunday, November 5, 2006**

### Poppy Ridge Golf Course

**GOLF REGISTRATION**

**1:00 P.M.**

**SHOTGUN START NINE HOLES**

**2:00 P.M.**

**NO HOST BAR & COMIC BOOKS WERNER**

**6:00 P.M.**

**Monday November 6**

### Poppy Ridge Golf Course

**CONFERENCE REGISTRATION**

**7:00 A.M.**

**Conference**

**8:00 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M.**

**Trade Show**

**5:00 P.M. TO 8:00 P.M.**

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# Members Only



NAUMANN'S NORCAL NEWS

**Don Naumann**  
Sierra Pacific Turf Supply

**Dick Rudolph** is leaving Foxtail Golf Course to rebuild the golf course at Aetna Springs. Replacing Dick at Foxtail is **Rich Lavine, CGCS**. Rich has been the Superintendent at Peacock Gap for many years. **Jonathon Ivory** is leaving Marin Country Club and is moving back east. His replacement will be **Kevin Pryseski, CGCS**. Kevin was the Superintendent at StoneTree Golf Club down the road in Marin Co. Kevin's replacement has yet to be named..... **Alan Andreasen, CGCS** is the new Superintendent at Green River Golf Course in Corona. Alan built both Rancho Del Pueblo and Los Lagos Golf Courses in San Jose and has been overseeing them both. Accepting the job to replace Alan is **Bill Davis, CGCS**. Bill had been the Superintendent at Peninsula G & CC in San Mateo until last year. He has been doing environmental work and consulting since his resignation at Peninsula.... **Rodney Muller** has been named the new Superintendent at Tilden Park Golf Course in Berkeley. Rodney was the assistant there prior to his promotion. Before Tilden he was the assistant at Monarch Bay GC. Both Tilden Park and Monarch Bay are American Golf Course properties. Rodney is replacing **Sean Duffy** who resigned and moved on to Central California.....

## NCGA's Paul Porter Passes

Paul Porter, CEO of the NCGA and President & CEO of Poppy Holding, Inc., passed away peacefully surrounded by his loving family on Tuesday, September 12 after suffering an aneurysm August 15th.

Porter, 56, is survived by his devoted wife Nettie, daughter Lauren, sons Reed and Robert, mother Paula Porter, sister Kate Breuleux and brother Jim Porter.

The Santa Clara University alumnus came to Poppy Hills in 1991 as General Manager after 18 years at Northstar at Tahoe Ski Resort. Over the course of his 15 years of leadership of Poppy Holding Inc., the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am came to Poppy Hills, Poppy Ridge opened in Livermore and both courses developed a reputation for world-class golf at a great value. Awards such as the National Golf Course Owners' Association 2005 Course of the Year (for Poppy Hills) are a direct reflection of the native Californian's guidance.

Porter was appointed CEO of the NCGA in 2004 and immediately embarked upon a plan to improve member services and drive association membership. The strategic plan that he formulated, along with the NCGA Board of Directors, will guide the association through the next five years and will be part of Porter's professional legacy.

Well known among his colleagues as intelligent, hard working and warm, Porter was a respected leader in the industry. Recently named fourth most influential CEO in California golf, he was founding president of the California Golf Course Owners Association and the California Alliance for Golf.

Porter had the unique ability to make those around him better. The greatest testaments to Porter's stewardship will be both the impact he had on the NCGA board and staff and the association's continued success and place amongst the leading golf associations in the world.

Poppy Hills General Manager Tyler Jones has been named interim CEO. Paul was loved by all that knew him and will be greatly missed.

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## THE BERT GRAVES MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP & RESEARCH TOURNAMENT

*By Jason Green, Superintendent  
San Jose Country Club  
Scholarship Chairman 2006*

In August 2006, the GCSANC awarded two scholarships to future golf course superintendents at The Bert Graves Memorial Scholarship and Research Tournament at Lake Merced Golf Club. Andy Magnasco received \$1,200 and Michael Alonzo received \$800. Both of these individuals made their career choices for the same reasons as most golf course superintendents, the love of golf and working outdoors.

Andy was a student at Santa Rosa Junior College and is attending Cal Poly San Luis Obispo this fall. He has been in the golf business since 2000 and was working as the 2nd Assistant for Andrew Trinkino at Fountain Grove Golf and Athletic Club this summer. His goals are to receive a Bachelors of Science degree in Turf Grass Management from Cal Poly, then work on a Masters in Turf Grass Management at the University of Florida. As you can see, Andy is driven to learn all that he can about turf grass.

Michael is a senior at California State University, Chico and is close to attaining a Bachelor of Science degree in Plant Science. He had a summer internship working for Chris Hart at Coyote Moon Golf Course in Truckee, CA. His goals are to receive his degree and become an Assistant Superintendent and eventually become a Golf Course Superintendent. Michael is driven by the daily situations that challenge him and inspiring others to appreciate the game of golf and what is involved in creating a quality golf course.

Each year the GCSANC awards a total of \$2,000 - \$2,500 to deserving students who we feel will be future leaders within our profession. If you know of any turf grass students who have plans of becoming a Golf Course Superintendent, please have them contact the office for details on how to apply. The deadline for 2007 applications will be June 15th.



Andrew Trinkino, Superintendent of Fountaingrove Golf & Athletic Club shares a moment with Andy Magnasco, Scholarship Recipient

## A GLORIOUS DAY AT SONOMA GOLF CLUB

*By Brian C. Netz, CGCS  
Superintendent, Presidio Golf Course*

For those who were unable to attend the Annual GCSANC Superintendent-Pro Tournament at Sonoma Golf Club, you missed a lot. You may have seen a few photos from the event in the last issue of Thru The Green, but I'd like to take a moment to give you an insider's view of the day.

First of all, we had great weather, which worked out well for the delicious barbeque lunch held on the lawn area adjacent to the new clubhouse. I'm certain with the abundance of burgers, hot dogs and other trimmings, no one left the table wanting of more food.

With the GCSANC Board of Directors commitment to provide quality educational experiences for our members, a guest speaker was slated immediately following lunch. Since the event included both golf pros and superintendents, we were able to secure a speaker whose topic focused on the importance of teamwork, with a speech appropriately titled: Teamwork for Today's Business Battlefield. Who better to speak on such an important subject than a retired general, who could draw upon pivotal experiences in Afghanistan and Iraq. U.S. Army Major General Charles Swannack, Jr. captivated the audience with his forthright presentation.

After a thrilling video presentation and a quick Q&A, the crowd was herded onto the course (which was in excellent condition) and where we were treated like royalty, as if we were club members for the day. Although the course got the best of me (and also my group), it certainly did not take away from the enjoyment and appreciation of such fine manicuring displayed by Mat Dunmyer, Superintendent of Sonoma Golf Club and his maintenance team. It was also very rewarding to see superintendents and pros (whose goals at times may seem incongruent) out enjoying the course together and partaking in the camaraderie at the post-golf reception.

Prior to the event, the GCSANC board of directors knew that many of our members wanted to show support for the men and women stationed in Iraq. An idea emerged to collect golf equipment that could be used by military personnel, thus assisting them with recreational opportunities during what little "down time" they get.

A call for golf equipment was put out to the GCSANC membership, and plenty of woods and irons were received on the day of the tournament. In fact, the response for unused clubs was overwhelming. The collection of clubs,

*Continued on page 15*

# Bert Graves Memorial Scholarship & Research Tournament

## Lake Merced Golf Club

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## THE BERT GRAVES MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP & RESEARCH TOURNAMENT AT LAKE MERCED GOLF CLUB



Michael Souza & Mitch Leiner winners of the Affiliate Logos Flight



A Focused Competitor at the Scholarship Event



Director Clifford Peterson, sets up the skins for the game and Man-Yin Tang our publisher, tries to break last year's record for selling raffle tickets!



Working with one hand, Barb sets up the Auction items for the Scholarship.



Mike Farnen of Farmload Distributors, Gary Williams of Cordova GC & Mitch Frasier of Turf Star



Jim Wheaton of Turf Star and Mike Hill, Superintendent of Moffett Field GC



# Events



## November 6

Superintendent's Institute  
Poppy Ridge Golf Course

## December

Regional Holiday Gatherings

## 2007

### January 22

Annual Meeting  
Santa Rosa Golf Country Club

### February 19-24

GCSAA  
Golf Industry Show  
Anaheim, CA

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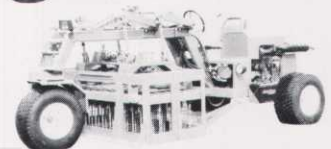
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