The Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California

Jason Green, President of GCSANC helping at the Nationwide PGA Tour Event at Wente Vineyards

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Presidio Golf Club

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ThruTheGreen
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Spring is here and hopefully everyone has completed their aerification successfully. With rain totals under normal amounts and the short winter, it is gearing up to be a long summer. With that said, you need to break away from the daily grind once and a while. Visit a few of your local colleagues, set-up an afternoon round of golf, hop on the mountain bike and lay down a few miles, whatever you need to do to relieve the daily pressures of our demanding jobs.

Grab your sticks, call the Pro and get ready for the Superintendent/Pro Tournament hosted by David Sexton, CGCS at the Meadow Club June 11th. Dave recently completed a full course restoration and I hear it is flat out awesome. If you haven't been to the Meadow Club yet, you are in for a real treat. You won't want to miss this year's tournament.

The 75th Anniversary Committee has been formed and is being chaired by Brian Bagley, The Villages Golf and CC, and co-chaired by Brian Morris, CGCS, The Links at Bodega Harbor. Several ideas have been discussed and the details are being worked out. This Association has a rich history and deserves a grand celebration to commemorate 75 years.

If you have any comments or suggestions or want to get involved, contact any of the board members. There are several different committees that could use your valuable input.

Here's to healthy turf and a mild summer!

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

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Strictly Business

JASON GREEN
San Jose Country Club

President's Message

Grassroots to Grassroots
February and March were eventful months in the association office. I traveled to Anaheim for the GIIS and Lawrence, Kansas for GCSAA Chapter Executive functions. Both presented great opportunities for me to share our association’s best practices with the other chapter executives. To view the GIIS presentation you can use the web address listed below. Just type it into your browser: http://www.gcsaa.org/chapters/exec/pd/BallMarkRepairToolandCommunityCooperation.pdf

The Williams Leadership Endowment provides support for the GCSAA’s Chapter Executives & Leaders Symposium. It provides an opportunity to strengthen the chapter’s leadership team, build on successes, and learn new concepts and ideas to support chapter effectiveness. In addition, it provides the opportunity for education and networking to affiliate chapter managers and leaders. Andy Tittle of Eagle Vines Vineyard Golf Club and I represented GCSANC members and board of directors. The summary of the Affiliate Chapters symposium can be viewed at the link: http://www.gcsaa.org/chapters/leadership/symposium.asp

Beginning with the May 3rd meeting at the Presidio Golf Club, all members with email ability will receive a meeting notice with an ADOBE “fill-in” form attached. You only need a current ADOBE Reader (Version 8 is available now.) This reader is free and will enable you to make the meeting reservation and return it via e-mail. If you wish to pay for your reservation with credit card, for your protection, you should not return the fill in form with credit card information. Many of you have card information on file with the credit card processing company used by GCSANC. That information is securely protected resident at the credit card processing company. You may use that by simply placing a notation of “card on file” in the credit card number field.

If you want to register via e-mail and do not have, your credit information on record, call the office and we will get it setup for you. Due to the rising cost of mail and labor to process paper forms, we hope you will find this registration method convenient enough to use. It will help us keep operating costs down and our office productivity high. Your paper meeting notices will continue to arrive until we receive notification that you do not wish to receive them.
MAY MEETING TO HIGHLIGHT GOLF COURSE TREE ISSUES

The May meeting of the GCSANC will be held Thursday May 3rd at the Presidio Golf Course in San Francisco. Highlighting the meeting will be Dr. Jim Clark, Vice-President of HortScience, Inc. Dr. Clark is the author of several books highly regarded in the arboricultural industry. Dr. Clark regularly consults on various golf/tree issues for Bay Area golf courses. He is very aware of the numerous issues facing local superintendents.

Participants in the May 3rd meeting will learn how to detect tree failure patterns and defects in tree structure. Also covered will be tree species tendencies and indicators for determining decay. Other topics include abatement procedures, job specifications, removals, and local rules and requirements. It should be a great meeting for all involved!

Golf following the meeting will be on a very limited tee time basis. Hope to see you at The Presidio!

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Mike Garvale, CGCS is leaving Palo Alto Hills Golf and Country Club after 22 years as Superintendent. He is being replaced by Andrew Morgan, the assistant superintendent at Pebble Beach Golf Links. The change will take place on May 1. Bill Hansen is the new superintendent at Monarch Bay Golf Links in San Leandro. Bill was the Assistant there prior to his promotion. He is replacing Todd Gillies. Izzy Taguchi has accepted the G.M. Superintendent position at Glenelg GC at McLaren Park in San Francisco. Wayne Conrad is the new Superintendent at Harding Park GC in San Francisco. Wayne was working at Harding prior to his promotion. Tom Wallick has just completed the driving range/practice area and a two-hole rebuild at Pruneridge GC in Santa Clara. Glenn Matthews recently hosted the Nationwide Tour Event and Wente Vineyards GC in Livermore.

Audubon Green Golfer Challenge

Throughout 2007, Audubon International is inviting golf courses in the United States, Canada, and worldwide to take part in the Audubon Green Golfer Challenge. The challenge is simple: Get as many golfers as possible to pledge to take steps to support environmental stewardship while playing the game. From replacing divots to supporting the golf course's efforts to provide wildlife habitat and protect water resources, there are simple actions golfers can take which are good for the game, good for the golf course, and good for the environment.

Throughout the year, the pledges from participating golf courses will be collected and counted by Audubon International. Ongoing totals will be posted online. Prizes will be awarded to golf courses with the most golfers signed up by November 15, 2007, with winners in various categories (golf course type, region, etc.) announced at the end of 2007. Finally, golfers who take the pledge will also become eligible for a random drawing of prizes at the end of the year.

Getting golfers to take the Green Golfer Pledge is a simple way for golf course superintendents and staff to help carry on golf's tradition of preserving the nature of the game. Learn more and take the Audubon Green Golfer Challenge: www.golfandenvironment.org. 
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The Board of Directors met at Mira Vista Country Club on March 13th.

Superintendent/Pro tournament set for the Meadow Club.

Dr. Frank Wong was a guest at the meeting. He gave us an update on the work that he is doing and then the board voted on donating $4000 to help with the continuation of his research.

Discussion was held regarding the location and format for the GCSANC's 75th anniversary. They will be meeting in April to begin planning an event that is scheduled for October.
Events

May 3
Field Day
Presidio Golf Course

June 11
Superintendent Pro
Meadow Club

November 11–13
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