

2009 GIS – NEW ORLEANS

Is it too soon to begin planning for the 2009 Golf Industry Show? It's never too soon to begin planning for what should be a fantastic return trip to New Orleans. On April 3rd and 4th I attended the Conference Logistics Committee meeting in New Orleans. It was a great chance to hear from the New Orleans Convention Bureau about all the progress that has been made to restore the majority of New Orleans to its pre-Katrina condition.

The GIS always presents a wide variety of educational opportunities but it wouldn't be complete without taking in some of the local highlights. New Orleans offers world class dining and entertainment and we are all familiar with the fantastic nightlife. However the city offers a great deal more than night time activities. The city is very proud of their new Audubon Aquarium of the Americas, the World War II Museum and of course the Riverfront shopping mall.

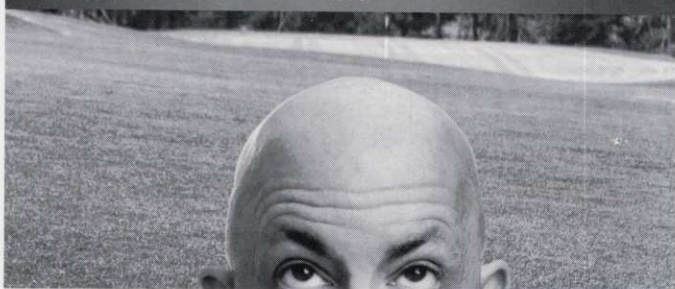
For more information on what New Orleans has to offer check out the New Orleans Convention Bureau website at www.foreverneworleans.com.

POWERS RECEIVES ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

Timothy P. Powers, CGCS at Crystal Springs Golf Course, has earned an Environmental Management Specialist certificate from the GCSAA for completing specialization programs in Habitat Development and Management and Water Quality and Application. With the completion of these programs, Powers has completed all six of the specializations in the GCSA Environmental Management Program. Powers becomes one of only 30 superintendents who have completed all six specializations.

GCSAA is addressing the environmental impact of golf course management and the increasingly complex training needs of golf course superintendents by offering specialized training through its Environmental Management Program (EMP). GCSAA's EMP consists of six specialized certification programs: Integrated Pest Management; Habitat Development and Management; Employee Safety and Right-to-Know; Water Quality and Application; Golf Course Development; and Storage, Disposal and Recycling. For more information on GCSAA's education programs, visit GCSAA at www.gcsaa.org

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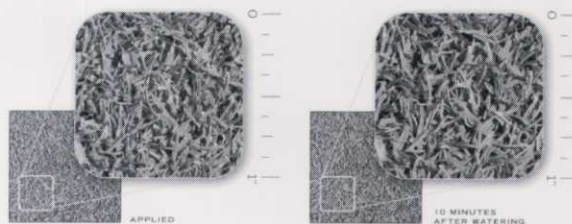
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GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS DISTRIBUTE FREE BALL MARK REPAIR TOOLS AT THE LIVERMORE VALLEY WINE COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP

with golf enthusiasts.” Mains added, “When golfers properly repair their ball marks they increase enjoyment for the game, especially for players that follow on the course.” According to Mains, each tool distributed is inserted into a small, instruction folder that features the correct steps to take when conducting ball mark repair.

The GCSANC’s ball mark repair initiative is supported by course superintendents throughout the region who continue to promote program awareness year-round. Several course superintendents exhibit posters at their facilities that clearly display proper repair methods. According to GCSANC Association Manager Barbara Mikel, more than 20,000 repair tools have been distributed through community outreach efforts, and many in conjunction with Play Golf America’s growth of the game initiatives.

According to industry experts, a ball mark repaired within 10 minutes often heals into a smooth surface within a few days. If left unrepaired, it can take a few weeks to heal, and the result will be a less even surface. For more information about ball mark repair, contact your local golf course superintendent.



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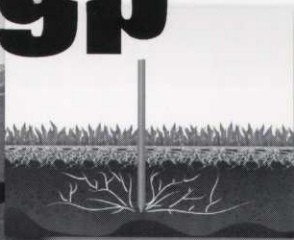


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A Step Back in Time WALTER BOYSEN

By Joe Tudisco

Sequoyah CC Historical Committee

Sequoyah Country Club has become what it is not only because of the likes of a McGurrin or a Donohue or a Chandler Egan. But also because of the toils of those who have worked daily to maintain and improve the course. Walter Boysen was one of them.

Boysen was Sequoyah's Superintendent from 1933 to 1970. The course underwent drastic changes and developments during his tenure. For example: Arch Horst remembers the changes on the 4th hole, when the slope, which was very steep, had been scooped to a more gradual incline. And on the 10th hole when earth had been moved in atop the crest to enable the green to be moved further back from the crest and to extend the length of the hole. Gary Gomes remembered Boysen adding the bunkers to the 16th and 18th greens. Arch remembers the drastic change in the fairways where, in the summer time, there was much more bounce and roll before Boysen installed automatic irrigation. The new irrigation system allowed more grass to grow (he was the first to install an automatic system on any golf course.)

Boysen strongly advocated and was responsible for fast, sloped greens. The greens were often treacherous during the Oakland Opens held at Sequoyah. (Those fast, sloped greens once caused Sam Snead to say, "I'll never play this damn course again." - And he didn't!) According to Arch, "Boysen was very diligent about course maintenance even to the point of instructing the caddy master to make sure that the caddies repaired all the divots (as they occurred)."

Boysen hired Gary Gomes in 1964 once Gary finished high school. "Boysen," he remembers, "Was always the first on the job, bright and early, because he lived right around the corner. Boysen was great to work for and was always fair to everybody. He showed no favoritism."

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A Step Back in Time WALTER BOYSEN

In 2000, Boysen made a visit here and told Terry Grasso he was astonished at the changes resulting from the growth of the redwood trees. Areas that were once creek had become forested in the vicinity of the 10th, 11th, 12th, and the 3rd and 4th holes. The location and size of the maintenance shed also surprised Walt.

Boysen worked as part of the maintenance crew at Orinda CC before he was hired as the “Greenskeeper” at Sequoyah (It was in the 1940’s that the title Golf Course Superintendent was changed from “Greenskeeper”). Boysen graduated from UC Berkeley with a major in Business Administration, a training that served him well for his subsequent activities. He was very active in the Northern California Golf Assn., which is where he first met Clifford A. Wagoner, CGCS.

Cliff and Walter became good friends. They worked together on the Boards of the GCSANC and the GCSAA. They amazingly served on both boards at the same time. Walter was truly a great leader.... He and Cliff developed a program that brought the University of CA Davis and GCSANC together to establish a ‘Turfgrass Adaptive Research Program.’ That resulted in UC Davis establishing turf plots and doing field work on several golf courses. They also were able to establish some classes related to golf courses and a turfgrass intern program. Many of the present golf course superintendents received training from that program. Walter and Cliff were also instrumental in developing a Certification Program at the GCSAA, a program that requires superintendents to continue their education. Walter was President of GCSAA in 1967. And in 1973, was awarded the association’s highest honor, the Distinguished Service Award. He also was awarded honorary membership in the GCSANC in 1987.

“We have all benefited from Walter’s dedication and leadership,” states Cliff Wagoner, CGCS.

And fortunately, so have we!

2008 DAVEY TREE 2nd ANNUAL NORCAL CUP SERIES

The Davey Tree Expert Company has graciously stepped up to the plate to sponsor the Davey Tree NorCal Cup.

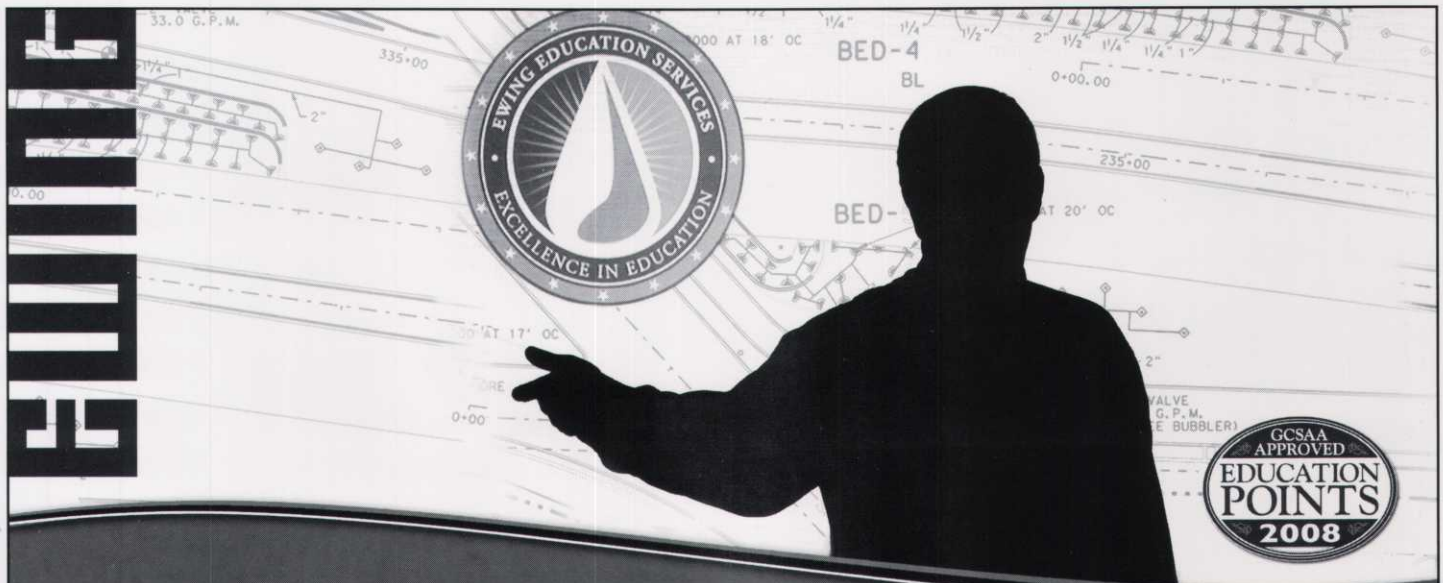
The Davey Tree NorCal Cup series of four golf events kicks off May 12th The Golf Club at Boulder Ridge in San Jose.

The second event in the series will be held June 16 at the brand new and exciting Stonebrae CC in Hayward, in conjunction with the annual GCSANC Superintendent/Pro Tournament.

Tentatively, the third event will be held in conjunction with the GCSANC Scholarship and Research Tournament in August at Deer Ridge CC in Brentwood. A date will be announced when confirmed.

The fourth and final event in the series will be held in conjunction with the GCSANC Institute. For the second year running, this event will be held at The Course at Wente Vineyards in Livermore September 15 and 16.

Only GCSANC members are eligible for prizes in the Davey Tree NorCal Cup. A member must complete eighteen holes in at least two out of the four events. A member's two best scores (in relation to par at the courses played) out of four possible rounds are recorded. A beautiful trophy (just ask last year's winners Jeff Arneson and Greg Jetter, CGCS) is awarded to the first place gross and net winners. First through fourth place are also awarded GCSAA gift certificates. Winners will receive prizes and awards at the next GCSANC annual meeting.



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