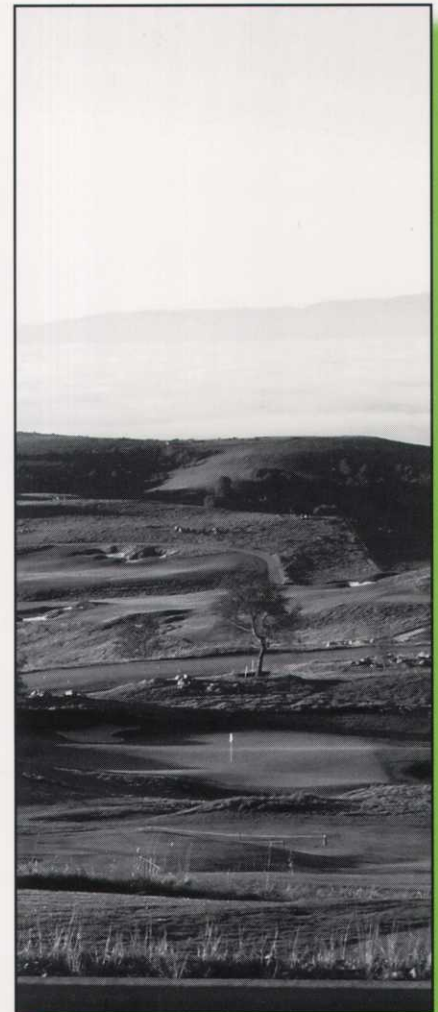


ThruTheGreen

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California



Stonebrae Country Club



Stonebrae Country Club

COVER

Stonebrae Country Club

CALENDAR

10 Events Calendar

FEATURES

- 5 Golf Course Superintendents Distribute Free Ball Mark Repair Tools
- 8 Stonebrae Country Club Host Superintendent Pro
- 13 A Step Back in Time

CONTENTS

STRICTLY BUSINESS

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

ThruTheGreen
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It's that time of the year! Aerifiers are feverishly pounding away at the turf surfaces on properties across the region. Superintendents and their staffs are now shifting into overdrive as a new season rapidly approaches. I hope that everyone's aerification goes smoothly and with a minimum of breakdowns, both mechanical and mental.

Things are cranking up on the GCSANC Board as well. We had our first Past President's Committee meeting. There were about 14 people in attendance. I thought it was a valuable experience. I admit to some hesitation in inviting such a large group to delve into the association's current issues. In this instance, I thought it was a successful endeavor. It was important to communicate the hot button issues that the current BOD faces out to this portion of the membership. This will allow the BOD to effectively mainstream the important issues out to the general membership.

The newsletter is currently a concern with the rising printing and postage fees. In order to reduce our costs, we will solicit to our membership people who would be willing to voluntarily receive the newsletter electronically in lieu of the printed version. This should help defray some of the costs of the newsletter and thusly provide for a better bottom line for our association's budget.

Our educational opportunities, including the Institute, are being evaluated... again. I think this is a healthy process and some of the philosophies of late have been challenged by the committee. I think this is a sign of health - that members want to get involved and have a say. It is after all, YOUR association. The Institute remains a challenge due to its coincidence in timing with the State Meeting. Some consideration is being given to combining the Annual Meeting with the January seminars. Nothing set in motion on this event yet, but a serious topic of conversation. This could lead to an exciting new form of January meeting.

Mark your calendars! Monday, May 12 is golf at Boulder Ridge. It is a noon shotgun followed by a no-host bar cocktail reception. It should be a great breather and reward for all the stress associated with the aerification during March and April. Don't forget that the annual Superintendent/Pro event is June 16 at Stonebrae. This event promises to be one that no one will forget!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



BRIAN NETTZ, CGCS
Presidio Golf Course

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OFFICE NOTES

Barb Mikel

GCSANC Association Manager

As I write this, I have just finished the Stanford University Golf Course meeting notice. We now process GCSANC meeting notices by e-mail distribution, online distribution and "snail mail" distribution. We've come a long way baby!

In keeping with the new advertising and media needs for "branding" and "imaging," we strive to keep consistency with the various distributions. What this means is the all should look the same! Fancy that, I always like variety but I guess brand identity is the advertising dictate for the new age. My point? Media and technology will ever more affect the dissemination of Nor Cal member information. Distribution of 75 years of your association history was via video. I wonder what the next 100-year anniversary distribution method will be. No, I won't be heading up that one!

Just like some agronomic practices change, so do the operations portion of the industry. The newsletter on a CD/DVD is actually cheaper than paper printing and mailing. Producing it and distribution via e-mail and web based downloads is even more affordable! An electronic format offers the opportunity to update new members, corrections; like very embarrassing errors

dropping members! Dave Davies, CGCS, George Santana Distinguished Service award winner and former two-term President emailed the other day to say he did not find his name near Ray Davies, CGCS (no not his brother) as he expected. Naturally there is no answer except, I am sorry! We (three different people proof our directory) did not catch that one even though we try to make a year-by-year comparison of the member names.

Dave can still be found at Stonebrae, hosting the 2008 Superintendent Professional Tournament. June 16. If others of you out there find inaccuracies, please, please do let me know. You can always give me a call I will provide personally, what I failed to provide in paper format!

Look forward to CD/DVD/web based downloads and e-mail options for distribution of the membership directory and Thru the Green. Searchable databases, color graphics and printable options really make financial sense. Some options will result in savings; some options will cost you more. Stay tuned; times are changing as we speak!

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

Members of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California (GCSANC) distributed free ball mark repair tools at the Livermore Valley Wine Country Championship (LVWCC), a Nationwide Tour Event, in early April at The Course at Wente Vineyards in Livermore.

Thursday through Sunday of the event proper, GCSANC members were stationed at the NCGA-Poppy Ridge GC booth, personally handing out tools and demonstrating how to properly repair a ball mark. Spectators had a chance to ask questions and practice the technique in the presence of a golf course superintendent.

“Our association members enjoy spreading the word on the importance of proper ball mark repair,” stated GCSANC Vice President Chris Mains, “and the Nationwide event at Wente is an ideal venue to share this news

(Continued on page 12)

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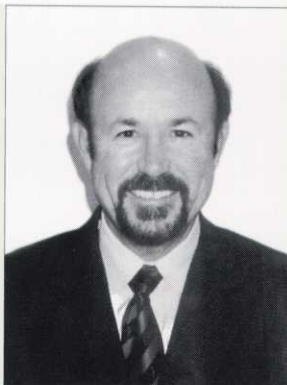
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NAUMANN'S NORCAL NEWS

Don Naumann
Sierra Pacific Turf Supply

Mike Clark, CGCS, has left Oakmont CC in Santa Rosa and is now enjoying his retirement. Mike started his golf course career in the Pro Shop at the Flamingo Golf Course in Santa Rosa. Mike first joined our Association in 1964 while Oakmont CC was under construction. In 1966 he became the Superintendent and has been there since. He served on the Board of Directors and was elected GCSANC President in 1975. In 1995, Mike received the George Santana Distinguished Service Award. Enjoy your retirement Mike, you deserve it!.....The new Superintendent at Oakmont CC is **Steve Good**. Steve has been the assistant there since leaving Napa Municipal Golf Course at Kennedy Park.....A new maintenance facility is being built at Shoreline Golf Links in Mountain View. Superintendent **Steve Crane** can't wait until this fall when the facility is scheduled for completion.....

MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER SCOTT BLACK SLATED FOR JUNE 16TH AT STONEBRAE COUNTRY CLUB

Team up with your pro and attend an upbeat seminar on Leadership Awakening, followed by golf on the spectacular David McLay Kidd Designed Course.

Scott Black, Founder of EmpowerU will be the morning educational speaker at the Superintendent Pro Tournament slated for Monday, June 16, 2008 at Stonebrae Country Club in Hayward. The seminar entitled Leadership Awakening, is guaranteed to be both upbeat and informative.

After spending time with motivational speaker Scott Black, attendees discover a feeling of self-empowerment. You'll obtain an increase in effective leadership skills, which often translates into increased productivity, a more positive work environment, and better business profitability. People often leave this seminar with an enormous feeling of enthusiasm, passion and commitment for work and life.

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STONEBRAE COUNTRY CLUB WELCOMES THE GCSANC FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT/PRO

Nestled high above the east bay hills, Stonebrae is a private gated community that offers a unique bay area "experience". The development is part of a 1700 acre parcel originally purchased 30 years ago. The original project was called Blue Rock 1900 and had intentions of developing 1900 home sites. After almost 20 years in development and permitting, formal construction began in 2004. The natural site presented a tremendous mix of rolling hills, vistas of the south bay and protected valleys. However the housing development required specific soil conditions and the ever-present flat lot. This meant that earth work would be required. During 2004 and 2005, preparations were made for the majority of the earth work. Over 10 million cubic yards of soil has been relocated with the majority being used to prepare for roads and homes. In some cases blasting was required to make grade and in almost all instances, rock had to be processed to a suitable size. All the rock that is visible around the golf course is either natural or placed for affect. In all cases it was native to the site. The landscape interface between golf and the home sites saw over 2000 rocks individually placed. All the rock walls that highlight the entrance were harvested and relocated from within the site.

The golf course is the work of David McKay Kidd. For those unfamiliar with the name, refer to Bandon Dunes in Oregon. David has taken a site that required large amounts of earthwork and formed a golf course that fits the natural terrain as if it were placed on the original contours. This detail was not lost on construction. You won't see any irrigation controllers as a decoder system was installed. There are no benches on the course and even the

(Continued on page 8)

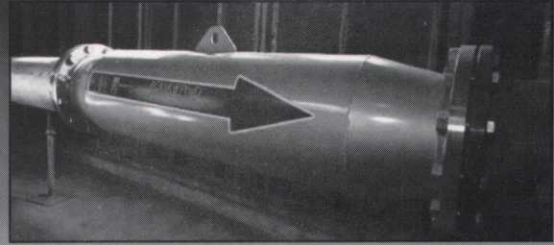
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(Continued from page 7)

STONEBRAE COUNTRY CLUB WELCOMES THE GCSANC FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT/PRO

garbage cans are set in the ground. This allows players to enjoy the amazing views of the bay area. Four of the five major bay area bridges are visible from the clubhouse as well as a panoramic view that stretch from the Oakland skyline to Sunnyvale. With 5 sets of tees there is an opportunity for the casual round as well as a test for even the most accomplished players. From the championship tees it measures 7200 yards and forces players to shape shots to fit the contoured rolling fairways. The 63 bunkers are strategically placed and present a formidable playing challenge as well as a dynamic visual component to this amazing setting. Greens and approaches are designed to allow players the chance to play a variety of shots. It is important to factor the wind before you visualize that approach shot. A low bump and run may be more prudent than flying all the way to the hole.

Final golf course construction was completed in June of 2007. The front nine opened for member play in September 2007 with the back nine following in October. Future plans include a full service fitness center, banquet facility and an intimate golf only clubhouse. The site plays host to two Federally Threatened species and incorporates over 200 acres of environmental areas. 500 acres of the original parcel have been deeded to East Bay open space and another 500 are part of Hayward open space. 53 acres of maintained turf is easily dwarfed by the native surroundings, however the contrast only adds to the "experience".

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Wireless Telephone Laws FAQs

Two new laws dealing with the use of wireless telephones while driving go into effect July 1, 2008. Below is a list of Frequently Asked Questions concerning these new laws.

Q: When do the new wireless telephone laws take effect?

A: The new laws take effect July 1, 2008.

Q: What is the difference between the two laws?

A: The first prohibits all drivers from using a handheld wireless telephone while operating a motor vehicle, (Vehicle Code (VC) §23123). Motorists 18 and over may use a "hands-free device." Drivers under the age of 18 may NOT use a wireless telephone or hands-free device while operating a motor vehicle (VC §23124).

Q: What if I need to use my telephone during an emergency, and I do not have a "hands-free" device?

A: The law allows a driver to use a wireless telephone to make emergency calls to a law enforcement agency, a medical provider, the fire department, or other emergency services agency.

Q: What are the fines(s) if I'm convicted?

A: The base fine for the FIRST offense is \$20 and \$50 for subsequent convictions. With the addition of penalty assessments, the fines can be more than triple the base fine amount.

Q: Will I receive a point on my driver license if I'm convicted for a violation of the wireless telephone law?

A: No. The violation is a reportable offense, however, DMV will not assign a violation point.

Q: Will the conviction appear on my driving record?

A: Yes, but the violation point will not be added.

Q: Will there be a grace period when motorists will only get a warning?

A: No. The law becomes effective July 1, 2008. Whether a citation is issued is always at the discretion of the officer based upon his or her determination of the most appropriate remedy for the situation.

Q: Are passengers affected by this law?

A: No. This law only applies to the person driving a motor vehicle.

Q: Do these laws apply to out-of-state drivers whose home states do not have such laws?

A: Yes.

Q: Can I be pulled over by a law enforcement officer for using my handheld wireless telephone?

A: Yes. A law enforcement officer can pull you over just for this infraction.

Q: What if my phone has a push-to-talk feature, can I use that?

A: No. However, the law does provide an exception for those operating a commercial motor truck or truck tractor (excluding pickups), implements of husbandry, farm vehicle or tow truck, to use a two-way radio operated by a "push-to-talk" feature.

Q: What other exceptions are there?

A: Operators of an authorized emergency vehicle during the course of employment are exempt, as are those motorists operating a vehicle on private property.

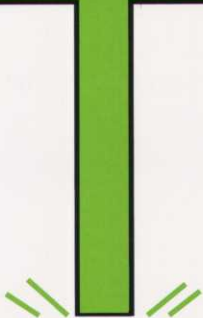
Events



2008
calendar

<p>May 12 Boulder Ridge Golf Course The Davey Tree Cup Tournament</p>
<p>June 16 Stonebrae Country Club Superintendent Professional Tournament</p>
<p>July 10 Crew Appreciation Day Oakland A's vs Mariners</p>
<p>August Scholarship Research Tournament</p>
<p>September 15 - 16 The Course At Wente Vineyards Superintendents Institute</p>
<p>November 9, 10, 11 Morongo Casino Resort in Cabazon, CA California GCSA Annual Meeting</p>
<p>December Holiday Gatherings</p>

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