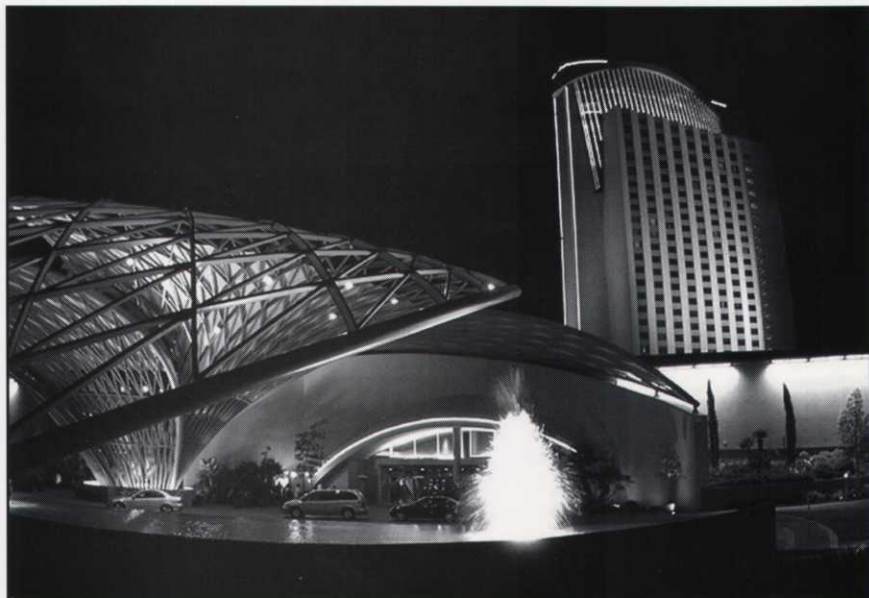


ThruTheGreen

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California



Morongo Casino Resort & Spa



GCSANC Association Manager Barbara Mikel with GCSANC Sponsor Greg Fernald with Target Specialty Products.

COVER

Morongo Casino Resort & Spa

FEATURES

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- 12 Superintendents Institute at the Course at Wente Vineyards

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ThruTheGreen
Published bimonthly by the
**Golf Course Superintendents
Association of Northern California**

EDITOR
Kenneth D. Williams, CGCS
(650) 323-0937
kkwilliams@stanford.edu

PUBLISHER
Man-Yin Tang
(650) 375-5858 x 125
mtang@dbstructures.com

ASSOCIATION MANAGER
Barbara Mikel
(530) 626-0931
gcsanc@e-easi.net

MEDIA
Emmy Moore Minister
Media Consultant

Information is Power

To say that information is power would be cliché, but it would be true. There's no denying it. To say that the GCSANC Board is stepping up the Association's power would also be true. The Board has taken recent and decisive action to make that statement true.

Recently the Public Relations Committee received a GCSAA fund-matching grant. The grant is for the purposes of using the media to further the superintendent image and awareness of our profession outside the industry. GCSAA is matching the \$3,000 motion made and approved at the August board meeting for PR purposes. We now have \$6,000 that will be used to purchase popular media airtime for some commercials highlighting superintendent skills, professionalism and commitment to golf. We may possibly use some of the funds to produce a video commercial highlighting the same theme. However, we are in the preliminary stages and are not completely sure how it will play out fiscally. We are looking at either "Hooked on Golf" radio and/or a T.V. show to be the primary sources of dissemination. The committee's goal is to use more popular media sources to get our message out. Look to the newsletter or to an email blast for notification of our first message and its airing. We will give as much advanced warning as possible for everyone to tune in. It is exciting!

Speaking of email blasts, the BOD moved at the September BOD meeting to forgo the opportunity to create revenue by selling e-mail blasts to the membership through Barb's office. The BOD felt unanimously that protecting our member's email addresses was more important to our members and association than the possible revenue we could generate. Therefore, if you see an e-mail from GCSANC, you know it is worth opening.

Also, the BOD is moving quickly to create our own association website. It will not have a forum. It will be used for: an online directory, membership forms and applications, renewals, online meeting registration, and for posting other pertinent information as well as links to the newsletter. For next year we will not have a printed directory, but access to the membership directory will be made available via password. The electronic directory provides very significant cost savings that are better used for other member services.

Lastly, this is the "Adios" issue of the GCSANC printed newsletter. Again, the costs associated with printing and mailing our newsletter cannot be ignored nor justified with today's technology. This money can provide greater benefit to our members than buying ink, postage and paper. Look for the transition to occur in January.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



BRIAN NETTZ, CGCS
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Strictly Business



OFFICE NOTES

Barb Mikel

GCSANC Association Manager

August and September were very eventful months for GCSANC members. Deer Ridge and Vince Keats, CGCS hosted the first annual Clifford and Myrtle Wagoner Scholarship Research Tournament. Turfgrass student Andy Magnasco of California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo received a \$2000.00 award. Donations and contributions by Affiliate and Superintendent Members raised over \$13,000.00 for the event.

The Superintendents Institute at The Course at Wente Vineyards was another very successful venue. Glenn Matthews and crew did a marvelous layout on the new Wente Event Lawn. Those in attendance had a very lovely evening, too bad more of you could not make the date. The education conference on September 16 was an excellent program relating to the critical issue of water: the availability, the cost, and uses for turf venues. Thanks to Education Committee Co-Chairmen Michael Souza and Ali Harivandi for an exceptional day! This particular two-day affair was also blessed with GCSAA service points, GCSAA education (thank you Gary Carls, CGCS) and DPR hours (thank you Greg Fernald and Target Specialty Products). The proceeds of this event will be devoted to education and research events in the upcoming year.

October has traditionally been a joint meeting with Sierra Nevada GCSA but this year has not really lent itself to keeping this timeframe. The board of directors will be exploring dates and times to keep this event a part of the 2009 calendar, assuming enough interest.

November 9-11 will be devoted to the California GCSA Annual Conference and Golf Tournament at **Morongo Resort in Cabazon, CA** (www.californiagcsa.org) for reservations and more information. This promises to be another educational bonanza with service points, education points, and DPR hours.

Speaking of November, dues renewal invoices for 2009 will be mailing in mid-November. These are due and payable by December 31. As always, we will include updated information requests with your invoice. Dues remain the same as 2008 for all classifications. If you need to change membership classification, for example Superintendent Member to Class A, this is the time!

December will see the very successful "mini meetings." The success of these events is undeniable and we will see the return of some interesting venues this year. Look forward to receiving the meeting notices in November.

2009 California Hospitality Suite

New Orleans Golf Industry Show

California Golf Course Superintendents and Golf Industry Partners look forward to you attending this event. You will enjoy exquisitely prepared Cajun food and beverage of your choice.

Save the date ...

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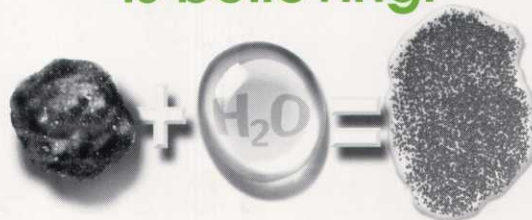
Visit Hospitality Suite Web Page:

[http://www.californiagcsa.org/](http://www.californiagcsa.org/200920Hospitality20Suite20brochure.pdf)

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More info contact Bob Tillema, CGCS 866/643-8707

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GCSANC Members Volunteer at Play Golf America Day at Pajaro Valley Golf in Royal Oaks

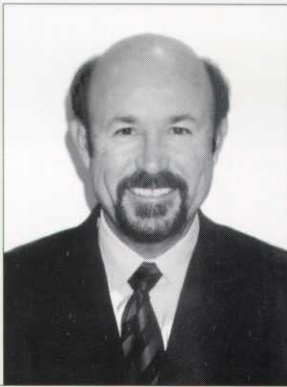
GCSANC member Peter Galea, CGCS, at Pajaro Valley Golf Club was the recent host of a Northern California "Play Golf America" day. Galea, opened his facility to more than 100 citizens interested in learning more about the game of golf. In addition to receiving free golf instruction from PGA pros, each attendee was given a free ball mark repair tool and instruction card courtesy of the GCSANC.

A booth was set up on site and staffed by GCSANC members volunteering time in support of the outreach program. Attendees were able to observe GCSANC

members Gary Carls, CGCS, with the City of Sunnyvale Parks & Recreation Department and Jerry Bibbey from Boulder Creek Golf & CC as they conducted ball mark repair demonstrations throughout the afternoon.

Special thanks to chapter members Peter, Gary and Jerry for supporting the BMRT education efforts, a program which continues to receive national recognition. If you're interested in supporting this education program contact committee chairman Chris Mains at:

cmains@springvalleygolfcourse.com.



NAUMANN'S NORCAL NEWS

Don Naumann
Sierra Pacific Turf Supply

Mike Nunemacher, Director of Golf Maintenance, is leaving Castlewood Country Club in Pleasanton to pursue a more peaceful life in Idaho. As Mike states it, it is a quality of life thing. He hates to leave the club and Northern California and the friends he has here. His replacement has yet to be named.... Dan Gho is the new Superintendent at Pacific Grove Golf Course. Dan has been the assistant Superintendent at San Juan Oaks GC under the direction of Brad Langley. Dan is replacing Mike Leach who has moved to a position with the City of Monterey.....Patrick O'Fee has left his Supt position at Pasadera CC in Monterey and is now working with Greenway Consulting. Replacing Patrick is Dave Salliaux. Dave was the assistant under Tom Zoller at Tehama Golf Club in Monterey.....

GCSAA's NEW LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

By Brad Griffing, Ruby Hill GC

Recently, I was given an opportunity to represent the Northern California Chapter on a visit to the GCSAA headquarters in Lawrence, Kansas as part of their inaugural Leadership Academy. The two-day event, co-sponsored by Toro and Syngenta, gave 25 Members from around the country a chance to see the inner workings of the organization and share our thoughts on how it can be made better.

Before the visit, I tended to think that the headquarters was simply a building where my membership dollars were sent in exchange for a glossy magazine. Although I have been a member for 13 years, I never took the time to think about the organization's goals and the resources that are available. It wasn't until the men and women that comprise the 100 person team took our group around the 4-story building that I truly began to understand the scope and goals of the association.

If there was a central theme that connects the different departments at the GCSAA, it would be education. By staying current on trends in science and business, the Superintendent profession separates itself from other professions. To this end, a large proportion of the staff is dedicated with organizing the continuing education programs available through the Golf Industry Show, GCSAA website, and chapter meetings. Another team is in charge of educating the public, golfing community, and government agencies about issues that affect the profession itself. This group works directly with The Golf Channel, Washington lobbyists, and key environmental groups. The GCSAA continues to educate itself as well. Through the enlistment of industry association managers, successful policies and practices are adopted to better serve members. In addition, staff librarians and media relations experts are always on hand to help members

(Continued on page 15)

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NEW TURFGRASS DISEASE CULPRITS

By Todd Burkdoll, market development specialist, BASF Turf and Ornamentals

The presence of several new turfgrass diseases has increased in recent years. Three new diseases in particular – Pythium root dysfunction, brown ring patch and rapid blight – are a challenge for turf management and maintenance professionals. Fortunately, researchers have made headway regarding how to detect and treat these destructive new diseases.

Tackling New Diseases

New turfgrass diseases can evolve for a number of reasons and several factors contribute to the prevalence of disease such as geography, moisture and temperature.

Stress caused by heat, drought and excess moisture can weaken turf and make it more prone to disease, whereas healthy turf is less susceptible to disease.

A specific maintenance challenge facing golf courses is keeping turf short and healthy, particularly on greens, because when golf course superintendents use plant growth regulators and/or frequent mowing practices they are stressing the vitality of the plant.

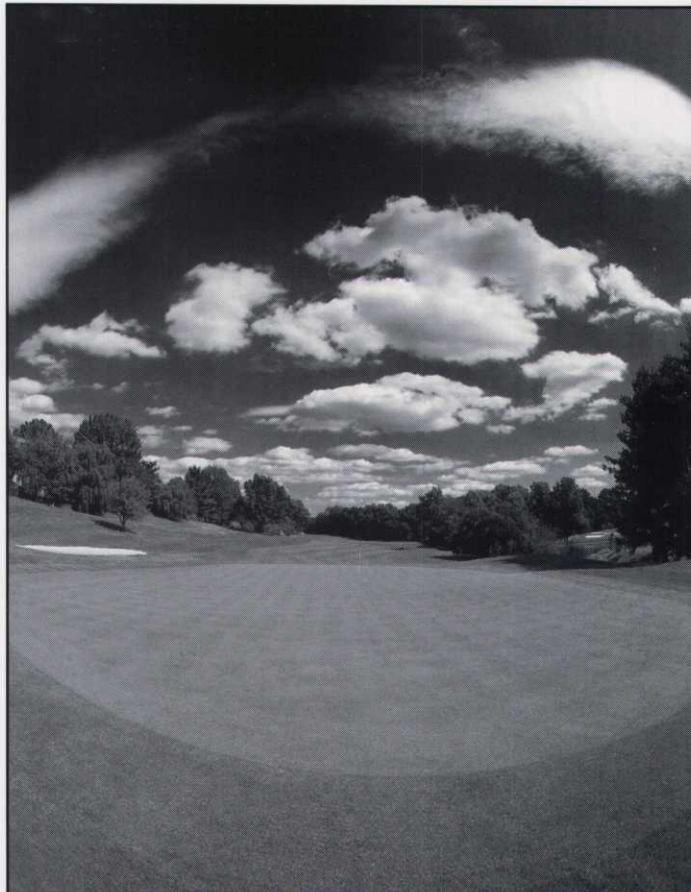
It is a difficult balance, especially when new diseases emerge and superintendents do not know how to treat them.

University and industry researchers are addressing these three emerging problem diseases. To avoid being caught off-guard, turf professional and course superintendents should take time to learn more about these diseases. Doing so will help identify and treat the diseases, and in some cases, avoid them altogether.

Pythium Root Dysfunction

Discovered in North Carolina in 1994, Pythium root dysfunction attacks putting greens and is limited to newly constructed greens less than eight years old. It is most commonly found in the Southeast, but also occurs in Midwestern areas with harsh summers. Bentgrass is most susceptible to the disease, which occurs on turf stressed from one or more of the following factors: high heat, repeated close mowing, low fertility schedules and drought.

(Continued on page 11)



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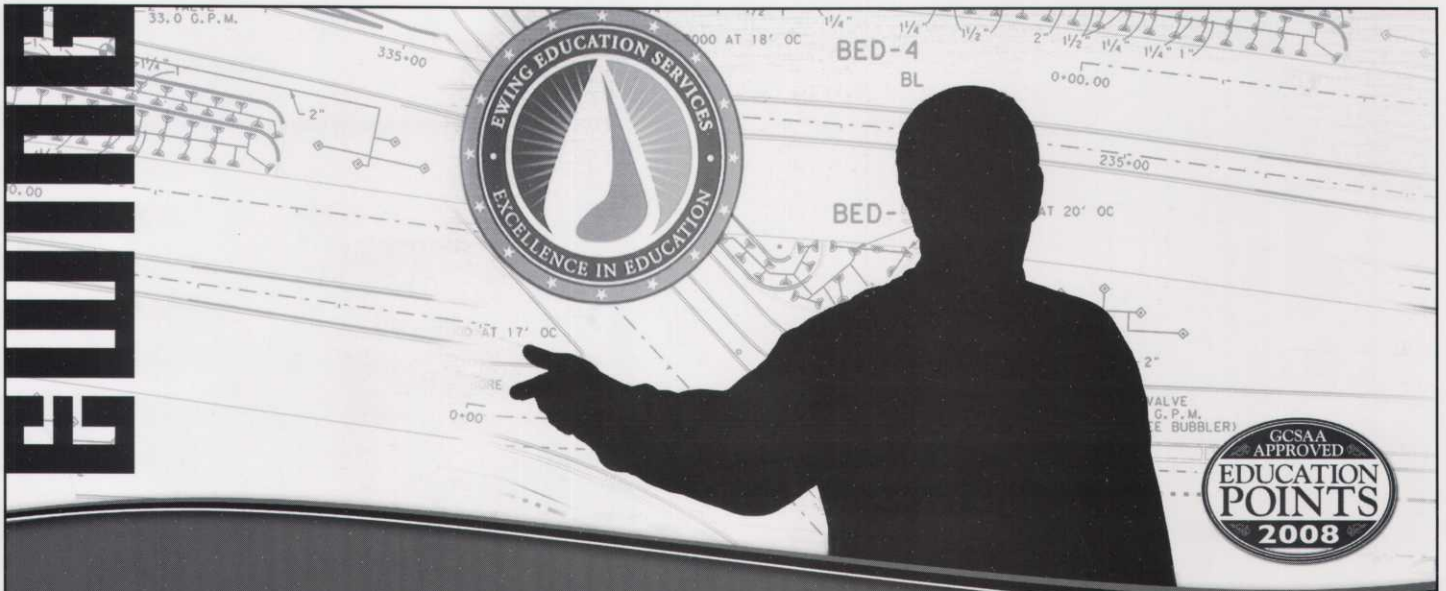
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Mike Ligon, Sand Channel Greens

Mike Ligon, Sand Channel Greens	Affiliate	1st Place Individual Net 66
Jeffery Shafer, City of Livermore.....	Class A	1st Place Individual Net 65
Jeffrey Hart, Southern Links	Affiliate	1st Place Individual Gross 73
Jeff Arneson, Redwood Empire Golf & Country....	Class A	1st Place Individual Gross 70



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Jeff Hart, Southern Links – 1st Place Affiliate Low Gross



Jeff Shafer, Superintendent, City of Livermore – 1st Place Superintendent Low Net



Terry Grasso, CGCS, Sequoyah CC and Mike Ligon, Sand Channel Greens–Low Net Team



Andy Magnasco, recipient of the 2008 Scholarship



Clifford and Myrtle Wagoner Scholarship Research Tournament was sponsored by Club Car.

Events



NOVEMBER 9, 10, 11

Morongo Casino Resort in
Cabazon, CA
California GCSA Annual Meeting
www.californiagcsa.org

DECEMBER

Holiday Gatherings

JANUARY 13, 2009

Presidio Golf Club
San Francisco, CA
Annual Meeting

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