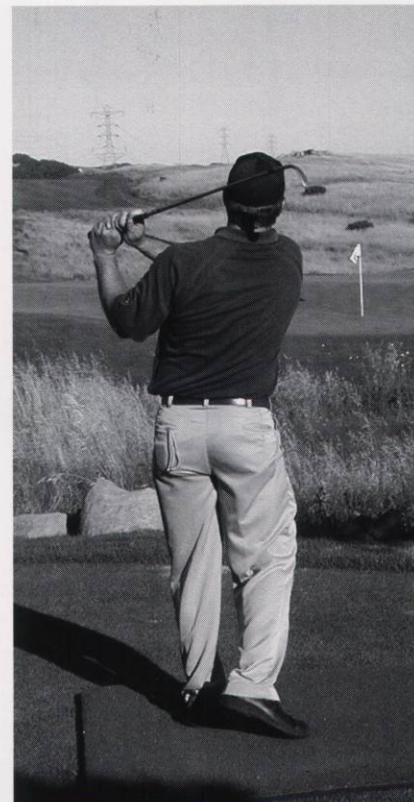


# ThruTheGreen

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California



The Course At Wentle Vineyards



Steve Byrne, Mira Vista Golf & CC at the Superintendent Professional Tournament, TPC San Francisco Bay at Stonebrae.

## COVER

The Course At Wentle Vineyards

## CALENDAR

10 Events Calendar

## FEATURES

11 GCSANC Members Support Play  
Golf America Day in Napa

## CONTENTS

### STRICTLY BUSINESS

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

**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

The light is beginning to shine at the end of another season's tunnel. Very soon will be the Institute and the close of another season. I'm sure this is a comforting thought to those of you battling water restrictions. Hopefully 2009 will bring adequate rain - in a gentle form.

Speaking of water, and the industry's most important issue to date, you should plan on attending the Institute at The Course Wente At Vineyards this year. We will discuss water and energy conservation, two things guaranteed to affect your decision making and bottom line. There are a bevy of informed speakers scheduled from various water districts and PG&E. Not only will you get the chance to play a beautiful course, but also you will have information to leverage on your budget dollars for the remainder of this year and the upcoming years.

The Board decided at a special August Newsletter meeting to switch to a web-hosted format. The switch will ideally take place around January but there are still details to work out. It will create significant savings that can be put into other member-oriented services. We are also gathering cost estimates to create our own website and online directory. The printing and shipping costs of the current directory are huge. A savings there would represent an opportunity to have significant cash assets to apply to other areas and allow your association to investigate services we previously could not offer.

Lastly, most superintendents would agree that one of our greatest strengths is our commitment to helping those in our association. On our dues renewal forms is an opt-in box for our benevolence fund that gives us the opportunity to provide modest, but important support to members in need or worthy organizations. For those of you that donate, thank you! Please know that a donation was recently made to a GCSANC member who suffered a family tragedy. Having this kind of fund and the commitment of the BOD to use it, made me proud to be the association's representative of giving. Not only was I able to convey money, but the thoughts and prayers of some 450 members.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



**BRIAN NETTZ, CGCS**  
Presidio Golf Course

## JOHN ARNAZ TREE MOVERS



# Our secret for success!

**We guarantee the success of the tree transplant for up to one year or we'll transplant another in its place!**

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

- **65" and 90" hydraulic tree spades**  
Allow for the transplanting of any tree without damaging the fragile root system...successfully!!!
- **Serviced 51 bay area golf courses**  
Our first golf course was Ridgemark in 1972, over 30 years ago!
- **Proud member of the GCSANC**  
John Arnaz supports and contributes to the GCSANC since 2000.

*Call John Arnaz and let the TREE PROS perform their tree moving magic on your next project!"*

1593 Koch Lane ■ San Jose ■ California ■ Ph: (408)266-1717 ■ Fx: (408)264-1717

Visit us on the web: [www.treemovingexperts.com](http://www.treemovingexperts.com)

State Contractor Lic. # 472305

# Strictly Business



OFFICE NOTES

## Barb Mikel

GCSANC Association Manager

By this time, all of our members have received a written request to provide the association with a preferred method of receiving communications. For those of you have responded so promptly, thanks!

But many have neglected to get this information back to me. I know it's a busy time of the year but please search it out the next time you visit that place where we all file the "I'll get to it later" items. And please mail it, fax it, or scan/email it back to me. With so many ways to communicate, we are trying to 1) get information to you in a format you want, 2) reduce the association's cost of duplicate mailing, email and faxing and 3) transition away from paper and postage costs as quickly as the membership allows. Please help us save valuable resources and become better environmental citizens in the process!

The board voted on July 16 to solicit the electronic publishing of *Thru the Green*. The preliminary search resulted in an excellent company but was not affordable. We will continue to seek an electronic medium that will be available to membership yet offer the ability to produce a printed copy for those wishing to have a "hand held document" to read. I suspect some day in the near future only the very wealthy will be able to afford printed media. We have come almost full circle from times when the Guttenberg printing press made obsolete the copying skills of the monks in various western monasteries.

Last time I wrote a brief description of the Scholarship Research Tournament history as I remembered it. I got a call from Past President Joseph A. Rodriguez, CGCS who was responsible for starting the Scholarship Program for the association and hosting several fund raising events at

*(Continued on page 6)*

Expect service in high gear.



We've upgraded to Deere power.

Though the Stores-On-Wheels® may look the same on the outside, now there's a lot more under the hood: More sales reps. A link to John Deere Golf equipment distributors. The full backing of John Deere Landscapes branches. Irrigation parts. Partnership with industry associations like the GCSAA. So take a look. Now, more than ever, we can deliver the support you'll need down the road.



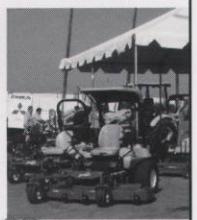
06-3170



**November 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>**  
*Pomona Fairplex*

*Minutes from all major Southern California Attractions*

**Nearly 5 acres of product displays.**  
**37 Seminars to choose from.**



**PRE-REGISTER NOW!**  
EARLY BIRD SPECIALS at [LandscapeOnline.com](http://LandscapeOnline.com)  
or call 714-979-5276.



Seminars for **Contractors** include: Smart Controllers, Water Features in the Landscape, Drought Tolerant Natives, Stormwater Pollution Control Strategies and More . . .



**Trinity**  
FUNGICIDE

You've got enough to worry about, so use **Trinity™ fungicide** to control anthracnose, brown patch, take-all patch, summer patch and dollar spot, even during summer stress periods. Use it to suppress algae, too, which can lead to higher turf quality. Like the entire family of BASF fungicides, **Trinity** works. So don't worry. Everything will be a-ok.

[betterturf.com](http://betterturf.com) | 800-545-9525

 **BASF**  
The Chemical Company

Always read and follow label directions.  
Trinity is a trademark of BASF. © 2008 BASF Corporation. All rights reserved.

(Continued from page 4)

## OFFICE NOTES

Rossmoor. Joe reminded me he set up the first program when donations were made directly to colleges. These colleges then made the awards to deserving turf students or horticultural students. The scope of the program and award was expanded include Research and Education when Blake Swint was President. With formalization and written criteria written by a Scholarship Committee headed by Gary K Carls, CGCS, selection criteria and award structure made awards directly to deserving Northern California students selected by the Scholarship Committee. Expanded and corrected input on the history of this event is welcomed should be forwarded to Ken Williams, CGCS for the next issue of *Thru the Green*.



Gill Stiles, CGCS, Santa Rosa Golf and Country Club newly certified. Congratulations!

### Floratine

Products Group



Creative Solutions

For Turf

Farmload Distributors

(800) 322-8417

**Your Exclusive Northern California Dealers**

Bob Francischine  
209-747-2206

Mike Farmen  
559-709-6295

Thor Larson  
831-277-4356

Bob Slater  
530-219-4135

Pete Fredeen  
209-401-4868



**PROFESSIONAL GRADE FERTILIZER**  
**Spread The Word**

**N** Micro Green®  
Greens King®  
Short Kut

**P** Best® Phos  
6-20-20XB®  
9-Iron Mini

**K** Greenskote®  
Mini Pro®  
Triple Pro®

For More Information, Contact Your BEST®  
Distributor, or Call 800-832-8891

Delivering Value

## Developing Great Relationships

Target Specialty Products has delivered value to golf course superintendents for over 35 years. We deliver value in the form of:

Complete Product Line including:

- Fertilizers
- Herbicides
- Fungicides
- Insecticides
- Spray Equipment
- Safety Equipment
- Soil Conditioners & Amendments



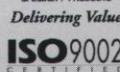
Seminars & Training

Written Recommendations



Call Target Specialty Products for all your turf pest management needs.

Target Specialty Products



San Jose, CA  
800-767-0719

W. Sacramento, CA  
800-533-0816

Visit us on the Web at: [www.target-specialty.com](http://www.target-specialty.com)

# RESULTS

## SUPERINTENDENT – PRO EVENT

### TPC SAN FRANCISCO BAY AT STONEBRAE COUNTRY CLUB

The event was kindly sponsored by E-Z-GO and accompanied by exceptional service from the staff at Stonebrae CC. This included Host Superintendent Dave Davies, CGCS, PGA Host Professional Brian Paul, and Chef Richard Bailey. Warm appreciation is also extended to motivational speaker Scott Black with EmpowerU International. His insightful Leadership in Motion presentation, focused on the importance of professional team-building.

**Closest to Pin: #3 - John Holmquist, #13 - Reg Griggs**

- \$100 #15 - Brian Netz, CGCS, Presidio CG (Wins use of E-Z-Go vehicle for one year)
  - \$100 Long Drive: #2 - Manny Freitas, #16 - Scott Bedell, Diablo Creek CC
  - \$1,000 Low Professional: Bobby Poole (70) Menlo CC
  - \$700 2nd Professional: Ken Powell (73) (Won card-off against Tim Loustalot)
  - \$1,000 Low Supt-Pro Team: Jason Green, San Jose CC/Marc Braga (65) San Jose CC
  - \$700 2nd Supt-Pro Team: Scott Lewis, CGCS, Menlo CC/Bobby Poole (66) Menlo CC
  
  - \$200 Low Gross: Scott Lewis, CGCS, Menlo CC (77)
  - \$100 2nd Gross: Frank Zamazal (78)
  - \$200 Low Net: Jonathan Ivory, Presidio GC (65)
  - \$100 2nd Low Net: Terry Grasso, CGCS, Sequoyah CC (72)
- Non-Professional awards made in GCSAA gift certificates.

**Your Local Sales Associates:**

**John Holmquist**  
707.974.8384

**Matt Lucas**  
916.416.4589

**Vicki Beloian**  
408.438.1604

**Steve Blanchard**  
916.257.2228

**Tom Walgenbach**  
831.212.5362

**Paul Wzikowski**  
714.719.2589

**Dave Kaschner**  
619.843.5011

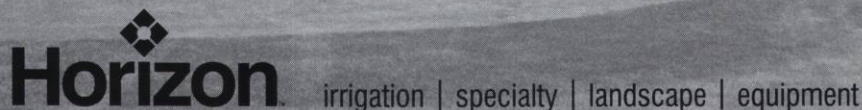
# Why Horizon?

## Horizon is the only professional distributor to offer:

- Complete line of professional fertilizers and soil amendment products
- Full selection of chemicals including post patent products
- Greens-grade seed from Seed Research of Oregon
- Greens-grade organic fertilizer from Sanctuary
- Quality line of soil surfactant products from Aquatrols
- Pond solution products from Becker Underwood and Bioverse
- Ready-to-deliver allied products, including pipe, fittings and wire
- Knowledgeable, experienced team of sales professionals with the skills to carry you from construction through renovation

From products to people, Horizon delivers a service unmatched in the industry – our dedication to doing whatever it takes, every day, to make your job easier.

**That's the Horizon Way. That's the Horizon Difference.**



HorizonOnline.com | 888.898.8833 | AZ | CA | CO | GA | ID | NV | OR | TX | UT | WA

## Minimize damage to fairways & rough *Specializing in low impact vehicles*

Providing Golf Superintendents certified arborist services for over 20 years, leaders when it comes to protecting and maintaining trees on golf courses.



# Arborwell

professional tree management

Contact Us at 888.969.8733 or  
[www.arborwell.com](http://www.arborwell.com)

Hayward \* Sacramento \* San Jose \* San Mateo

### SUPERINTENDENT PROFESSIONAL TOURNAMENT AT TPC SAN FRANCISCO BAY AT STONEBRAE



Monday's U.S. Open playoff entertained the guys during check-in at TPC San Francisco Bay at Stonebrae.



Speaker Scott Black is congratulated by Host Superintendent Dave Davies, CGCS. Also shown are Host Pro Brian Paul and Brian Netz, CGCS.

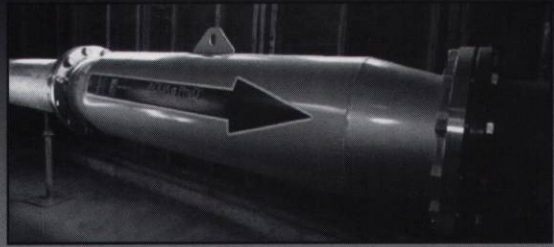
Cut water use by 15 to 25 percent



Aqua-PhyD's in-line water and soil treatment system uses resonant frequency technology to reduce soil compaction and harmful Na levels

Works with all water sources including brackish and reclaimed water

Increase root growth and nutrient uptake



Installation at a Southern California Golf Course

888-288-AQUA (2782)

Call toll-free for more information or email [info@aqua-phyd.com](mailto:info@aqua-phyd.com)



**Satisfaction Guaranteed!**

[www.aqua-phyd.com](http://www.aqua-phyd.com)

## CAN YOU AFFORD TO FERTILIZE?

*By David Piper, CGCS*

There is no escaping the rapidly increasing expenses associated with operating a golf course. Rising oil prices have effected the cost of all petroleum based manufactured goods, raw materials such as ammonia, natural gas and sulfur have increased to staggering levels, and the weakening American dollar have significantly impacted the cost of imported goods. Some of these factors have also increased the price of fertilizer yet plant nutrition is vital to a successful management plan. Can our industry continue to afford to fertilize? Are Golf Course Superintendents being forced to jeopardize the basic fundamentals of plant health? Making good choices before deciding whether fertilizer is a necessity or luxury, could potentially smooth long term economic clumps in the turf.

Driving the rising fertilizer prices are simple supply and demand equations. The global population continues to prosper creating a hunger for a higher protein diets, China, India and several other countries continue to industrialize with a thirst for almost all raw materials. And corn continues to lead the race in the demand for ethanol based bio fuels. In addition to these variables, high natural gas prices have caused twenty five U.S. ammonia plants to close permanently since fiscal year 1999 creating the foundation for soaring fertilizer prices.

So how does this impact the Golf Course Superintendents attempting to balance the budget and please the golfer? Fertilizer is a necessity to feed the growing global population and without it people would starve. The fertilizer produced to grow corn, soy beans, and wheat is the same fertilizer produced to grow lawns, parks, and golf courses. It originates from the same pile. U.S. corn was trading for only \$2.00 a bushel in 2006 and has increased upward to \$6.50 a bushel. Our industry grows turf grass and there is no way to capture the higher fertilizer costs through crop yields. Fertilizer has become more expensive but eliminating it from a turf management program could be far more costly than the current price per bag.

Like many other businesses, a golf course relies on a certain clientele to insure consistent revenue. Without the golfer, there is no revenue. As the economy weakens, so does the discretionary income that is used for recreational activities. Golf courses generally have a certain value to the consumer based on course design, playing conditions and price. Once the playing conditions diminish, so does the value. Golf Course Superintendents are struggling to balance budgets and often asking whether fertility is worth the expense.

*(Continued on page 14)*



# Events



## SEPTEMBER 15 - 16

The Course At Wente Vineyards  
Superintendents Institute

## NOVEMBER 9, 10, 11

Morongo Casino Resort in  
Cabazon, CA  
California GCSA Annual Meeting  
[www.californiagcsa.org](http://www.californiagcsa.org)

## DECEMBER

Holiday Gatherings

# FOR SALE

2003 Jacobsen LF 2500 fairway mower  
1800 hours, runs and cuts great!

Operator protection cage. \$15,000 or  
best offer. Available 9/1/08

Call Terry Stratton 707-962-2183



### SAND INJECTION

- Removes Thatch + Fills with sand in one operation.
- Replaces over 10% of the surface in each direction
  - Ideal for firming softer surfaces

# GRADEN



### SWING WING

- Very quick, smooth operation.
- Clean cut grooves up to 1½"
- Why not Graden your fairways?

### WATCH VIDEO'S, LEARN MORE AT

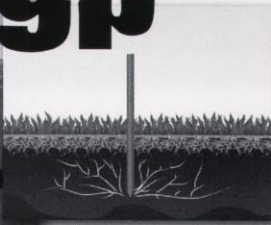
[WWW.STSVEGAS.COM](http://WWW.STSVEGAS.COM)

Northern California Demo Tour - May 2008  
Please contact to see any of the machines in action



### GSR1200 - GREEN'S ROLLER

- 4ft Rolling Width, Twin Heads
  - In built Trailer
  - Quick Operation



### GP AIR

- Uses compressed air to shatter the soil
  - Operates up to 22" Depth
    - Creates Pore Space
  - Improves water infiltration
- Fully controllable air pressure / depth
  - Works in the toughest soils
  - Perfect for push up greens
- Built for decompacting around trees
  - Virtually no surface disturbance

For PARTS, INFORMATION,  
or ARRANGE A DEMONSTRATION  
contact



### SPORTS TURF SERVICES, INC

9811 W Charleston Blvd, Suite 2-732  
Las Vegas, NV 89117

tel : 702 451 4333  
fax : 702 451 5333

email : [sts@stsvegas.com](mailto:sts@stsvegas.com)  
[www.stsvegas.com](http://www.stsvegas.com)