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Stanford's Assistant Superintendent, Jason Oliver welcomes Tiger Woods who stopped by the Siebel Varsity Golf Training Complex on Monday of Presidents Cup week. Tiger spent time with his old college teammate and current Stanford Men's Golf Coach Conrad Ray.

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

PUBLISHER
Shaw Kobre
(707) 569-8481
shaw@inthelooppublishing.com

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

MEDIA CONSULTANT
Emmy Moore Minister
(530) 666-6508
emmypga@aol.com

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cmains@springvalleygolfcourse.com



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tbastis@msn.com



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Presidio Golf Course
bnetz@palmergolf.com

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La Rinconada Golf & Country Club
johnpinalrcc@hotmail.com



AFFILIATE DIRECTOR
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West Coast Sand & Gravel
jkurung@wccsg.com



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DALE SIMPSON
Crow Canyon Country Club
dale.simpson@ourclub.com



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GREG DUNN
West Coast Turf
greg@westcoastturf.com



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Ruby Hill Golf Club
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OFFICE NOTES



BARBARA MIKEL

Membership renewals are due to be sent in mid-November. This year we will have our first renewal using the new GCSANC web site www.gcsanc.com. You will receive a paper notice as well, but you are encouraged to use the web site with credit card payments.

The Membership Directory is now online. Plans are to make this downloadable and printable in Adobe PDF. Look for new advertising, education and sponsorship programs for our Affiliate members. We will incorporate advertising and member contact opportunities into this "one price" package. Our Thru the Green page view/viewing times continue to be excellent. That means our membership is reading our magazine and that it is the place to have your advertising. Looking forward, we will be able to offer one-time full page inserts for those wishing to have seasonal product special pricing and offerings.

I just reviewed the 2005 Strategic Plan (updated last in 2007.) The goals and planning produced in 2005 had a five-year goal/plan implementation schedule. It is exciting to see those goals realized from that planning session. It is now time to review/revise with an eye to the economic and cultural changes taking place now.

More and more companies and businesses are going "electronic/green." GCM electronic magazine uses the same technology we instituted for Thru the Green last year. All past issues are accessible using the original links and are available via RSS feed if you want to keep them handy. The electronic version can be printed to paper for easier reading or to an Adobe PDF file format for archiving. I was delighted to find out Vice President, Thomas Bastis, CGCS knew the cost of printer ink. Those high costs added to the cost of paper, postage and processing reinforces the board decision to "go electronic."

Those of you able to attend the 2009 Superintendents Institute were presented with a high tech program offering leading edge technology for course mapping, construction course water, soil, and salinity monitoring. Thanks to all the Education Committee Members for the time and attention to this event. One of our presenters Eric Gakstatter wrote an interesting article for The American Surveyor about the use of the topic technology for the Olympic Club rebuild. It's an interesting read. View it here:

<http://www.amerisurv.com/content/view/6642/>

Thanks also to all the Trade Show Exhibitors for participating in the "rainy day" event!

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Special Thanks to the Institute Trade Show Exhibitors and Golf Contest Sponsors

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



CHRISTOPHER MAINS

Spring Valley Golf Course

Greetings everyone!

As I write this, we are experiencing our first real rain of the season. I see the rain as a symbol of washing us clean of all the bad economic news that we have been inundated with this year. I'm looking forward to a fresh start in the spring, with high hopes and expectations of a growing economy and increased discretionary funds for the golfing community. This economic momentum must be present for our industry to prosper both locally and nationally.

As always, the board is busy putting together events that are valuable and worthwhile to our members. However, it has been especially challenging this past year to plan an event that most of you feel is important to attend. It is vital that you know that we are here for you and so to accomplish that, we are planning to conduct an online survey to help us better understand what the needs of the membership are. Keep an eye on your inbox for information.

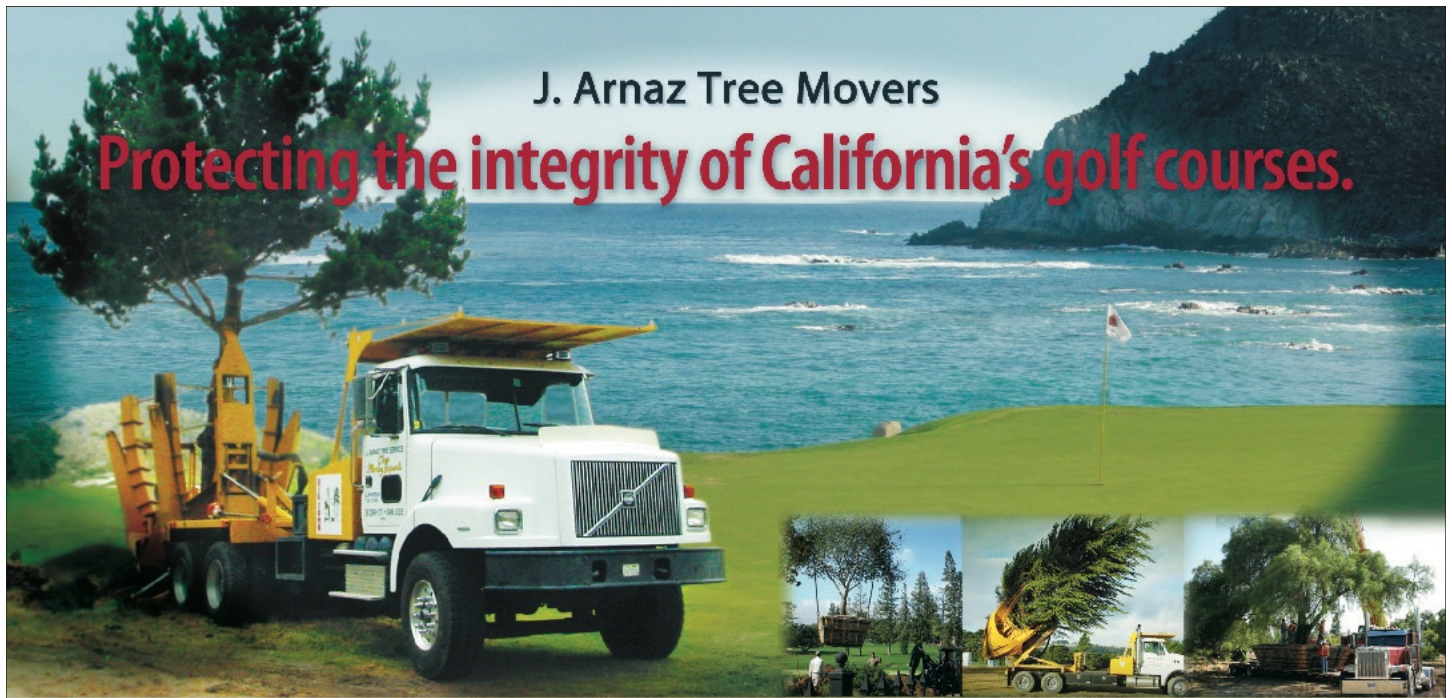
In December, we will be having our annual holiday events. As before, we will be doing the regional events which have enjoyed

considerable success. We hope to build on that with even better venues while keeping them extremely affordable. Locations and dates will be forthcoming. Additionally, the Annual Meeting is scheduled for January 11th at Spring Valley Golf Course. The attendees of the meeting that choose to play golf will be treated to remodeled tee complexes on select holes. Pray for good weather!

Plan to attend the GCSAA Golf Industry Show in San Diego. It is in our home state so let's all head down and make a strong showing. Please register early to ensure you get your first choice of seminars.

In the previous newsletter, I had mentioned a number of environmental and political issues that are threatening our industry. These issues have not gone away and are not likely to go away anytime soon. I would again encourage everyone to read all the information distributed by Jim Husting, CGCS. Additionally, GCSAA is aware of the proposed legislation and is continuing to monitor the progress.

Happy Holidays everyone!



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NORCALENDAR

DECEMBER

Holiday Gatherings

JANUARY 11, 2010

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Chris Mains, Host Superintendent

FEBRUARY 8-12, 2010

Golf Industry Show

San Diego

MARCH 15, 2010

NCGA/USGA/GCSANC Green Section Meetings

Palo Alto Hills Golf and Country Club

Andrew Morgan, Host Superintendent

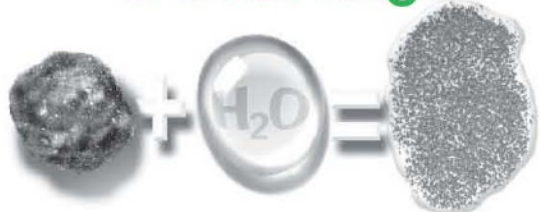
NAUMANN'S NORCAL NEWS



DON NAUMANN

Todd Cook has accepted the position of General Manager at Poppy Ridge Golf Course in Livermore. Todd had been the superintendent at Poppy Ridge since its inception. **John Ball** has been named superintendent of the 27-hole facility..... The NorCal area hosted three very successful tour events in the last couple months. **Lonnie Stevens** a Blackhawk Country Club hosted the CVS Caremark LPGA event, **Wayne Kappelman** hosted the biennial Presidents Cup at Harding Park and **Jason Goss** hosted the Charles Schwab Cup Championship at Sonoma Golf Club.....**Jim Stark** has left Ridgemark Golf & Country Club in Hollister. Jim's assistant **Eric Boyd** has taken over the superintendent position.....**John Jorgenson** is on the move again and has left Dublin Ranch. Former Blackhawk Country Club assistant superintendent **David Birrer** has accepted the superintendent position at Dublin Ranch.....

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2009 Institute—A Chance to Educate, Collaborate, and Congratulate

The Northern California Chapter of the GCSAA in cooperation with the UC Cooperative Extension recently held its 2009 Institute at The Course at Wente Vineyards in Livermore, CA.

The conference, with its technological theme, was tri-dimensional in nature. It was a chance for attendees to learn more about technological products, which help maintain quality turf while maximizing water conservation and minimizing other inputs such as fertilizers, pesticides, etc. Secondly, it was a chance to collaborate and network with industry experts, educators, and vendors in two additional settings—at the product/service trade show & wine tasting, and the following day on The Course at Wente Vineyards during the Davey Cup Series golf event.

According to event co-chairman **Michael Souza**, the following industry experts provided invaluable insight: **Erik Gakstatter**, principal with Discovery Management Group, **Aaron Johnsen**, founder of Turf Intelligence, LLC, **Jason Bass**, a certified arborist and president of Stratapoint, Inc., **Bernd Leinauer, Ph.D.**, professor and extension turfgrass specialist in the Plant Sciences Dept. at New Mexico State University, and **Jason Hill, Ph.D.**, advanced engineering manager with The Toro Company.

A conference highlight occurred when **Patrick Gross** (southwest director for the USGA Green Section) presented institute co-founder **Dr. Ali Harivandi** (environmental horticulturist at U.C. Cooperative Extension) with the prestigious Piper & Oakley Award. This honor is bestowed upon an individual who has contributed significant time and expertise towards USGA Green Section programs, and thus, to the game of golf. Harivandi, whose exceptional work and outreach efforts could fill volumes, was both humbled and honored by the special distinction. He received plentiful congratulations from the dozens of GCSANC members on-hand for the awards presentation.

Special thanks are extended to host **Glenn Matthews**, his staff and the entire Wente Family, event co-chairmen **Dr. Ali Harivandi** and **Mike Souza** (Richmond CC), committee members **Steve Agin** (Ruby Hill GC), **Thomas Bastis**, CGCS (California GC), **Gary Carls**, CGCS (Sunnyvale GC), **Dean Cravelho** (Round Hill CC), **Greg Dunn** (West Coast Turf), **Greg Fernald** (Target Specialty Products), **Gary Ingram**, CGCS (Metropolitan GL), **Rodney Muller** (Tilden Park GC), **Dave Wilber** (Sierra Pacific Turf Services), and **Ryan Zuehlsdorf** (Roddy Ranch GC.)

Warm thanks is also extended to institute sponsor **Diana Nisbet** and the team at **Syngenta**, a company with 20 years of experience in developing and marketing turf-related products. [To learn more about Syngenta visit <http://www.syngentaprofessionalproducts.com/ppmain.aspx>.]

In addition, we thank our loyal vendors who participated in the trade show, and lastly, our cup series sponsor **Blaine Boccignone** with the **Davey Tree Expert Company**. [To learn more visit <http://www.davey.com/cms/site/f280a1eec66b9846/index.html>.] Special congratulations are extended to Davey Cup Series winners **Dave Sheldon**, Fountaingrove Golf and Athletic Club, First Place Net and **Jeff Hart**, Southern Links, First Place Gross.



Dr. M. Ali Harivandi with the Piper and Oakley Award.

Dr. Charles V. Piper and Dr. Russell A. Oakley were among the earliest scientists to conduct studies in the fields of turfgrass science and golf course management, and served as the first Chairman and Co-Chairman of the USGA Green Section when it was formed in 1920. They were men of great character, keen vision and remarkable achievement, whose contributions to the improvement in early greenkeeping methods cannot be overstated. The Piper and Oakley Award, established in 1998, periodically recognizes others who have so generously contributed to the programs and activities of the USGA Green Section and the game of golf as a volunteer.

Dr. Harivandi joins the ranks of notable recipients: Jaime Ortiz Patiño, Dr. James R. Watson and Dr. Victor R. Gibeault.

RESEARCH ON HERBICIDE PROVES IT EFFECTIVE FOR BENTGRASS REMOVAL FROM KENTUCKY BLUEGRASS

Roch Gaussoin, PhD, University of Nebraska-Lincoln and Dean Mosdell, PhD, Syngenta Professional Products

Selective removal of bentgrass from Kentucky bluegrass is a common challenge for many superintendents. Though many products through the years have shown various levels of effectiveness in controlling bentgrass, recent research indicates that one of the newest herbicides on the market can deliver up to 95% control to affected bluegrass.

Tenacity® (mesotrione) is a herbicide registered in 2008 for golf courses and sod farms and federally registered for commercial applicator residential use in 2009. State registrations for residential use are pending. Tenacity was discovered by a Syngenta scientist who observed fewer weeds growing under his bottlebrush plant (*Callistemon citrinus*). Its active ingredient mimics the natural herbicidal compounds in root exudates of the bottlebrush plant. It is a pigment inhibitor resulting in a “bleaching” of the new growth of target weeds. In practice the susceptible species turn white which, while a great indicator of efficacy can be a bit startling the first time an applicator uses the product (Figure 1). It is safe on all cool season grasses except creeping bentgrass, when used as directed.



Figure 1

Evaluation at multiple locations have shown good to excellent control of creeping bentgrass, nimblewill and windmillgrass in Kentucky bluegrass and other cool season grasses and good to excellent control of a laundry list of broadleaf weeds and crabgrass and foxtail. The herbicide offers both pre and post activity, depending on species.

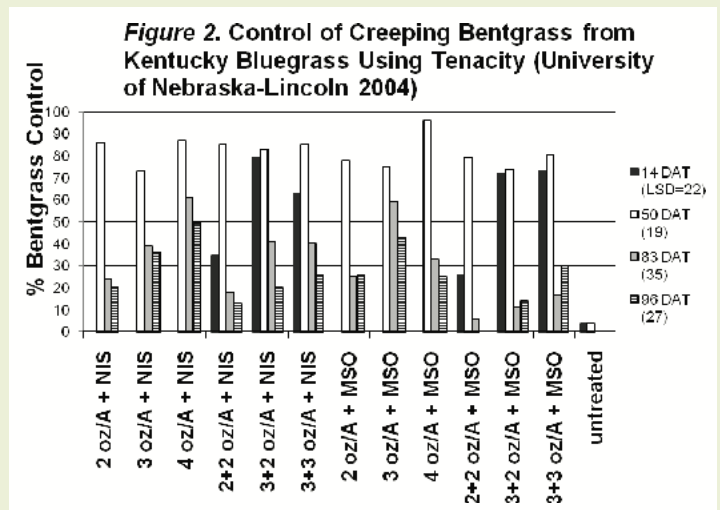
Another unique property of Tenacity is safety at seeding. Applications at planting for safety on Kentucky bluegrass, perennial ryegrass and tall fescue have shown excellent results in research trials. Work at other Universities has shown control, albeit inconsistent depending on application timing, for annual bluegrass. Following is a brief summary of work conducted in Nebraska for removal of creeping bentgrass from Kentucky bluegrass and suggestions for rates and timing for optimal control.

A research experiment was conducted in 2004 at the John Seaton Anderson Turf and Ornamental Research Center near Mead, NE to evaluate Tenacity for creeping bentgrass removal from a Kentucky bluegrass stand and to evaluate the use of methylated seed oil (MSO) and non-ionic surfactant (NIS) for improved herbicide efficacy. A mixed stand of creeping bentgrass and Kentucky bluegrass surrounding a creeping bentgrass putting green was used to determine the efficacy and potential creeping bentgrass injury from Tenacity appli-

cations. The 3' x 6' plots were sprayed with a CO₂ driven backpack sprayer equipped with an 8002V flat-fan nozzle on 13 May and 3 June for split applications and 3 June for single applications.

No visible injury to the Kentucky bluegrass was observed throughout the experiment. Within 10 days of each application, plots treated with Tenacity had white new growth developing from creeping bentgrass plants. The bleaching symptomology remained for approximately 3-4 weeks following application. During the summer months there was increased Kentucky bluegrass cover in the plots due to the spreading of Kentucky bluegrass into the previous creeping bentgrass occupied patches. However, creeping bentgrass did return to the experimental area during the cooler autumn climate forming a dense turfgrass stand composed of a mixture Kentucky bluegrass and creeping bentgrass. Although, the creeping bentgrass was not completely controlled, the stand was comprised of more Kentucky bluegrass than found at the beginning of the experiment.

It should also be noted that no Kentucky bluegrass overseeding was done during the trial. In general, higher rates of Tenacity provided greater control of creeping bentgrass regardless of adjuvant (Figure 2). Using NIS or MSO both appeared to respond similarly. A trend of greater long-term control with the use of a NIS compared to MSO did appear to be present, but the trend was not significant.



A severe infestation on a greens surround was identified in 2005 to further refine recommendations for successful use of Tenacity for selective removal of creeping bentgrass from Kentucky bluegrass. The area was comprised of approximately 65 percent creeping bentgrass mixed with an unknown blend of Kentucky bluegrass cultivars. The greatest control was seen from fall applications in various split and rate configurations, including rates higher than used in 2004 (4-6 oz/Acre). All treatments were applied with an NIS. Initial applications were applied on September 7 and sequential applications every 14 days thereafter.

Data on bluegrass phytotoxicity and bentgrass control were taken every two weeks after the initial application and the following spring when the results were the most dramatic (Table 1; Figure 3). All Tenacity treatments resulted in 95% control (or greater), and produced no visible phytotoxicity to the Kentucky bluegrass. As with the work

described previously the plots were not overseeded with Kentucky bluegrass which, in all likelihood, would have resulted in even greater reduction in creeping bentgrass.

For many superintendents, Tenacity could be an exceptional tool for the selective removal of creeping bentgrass from Kentucky bluegrass. Fall applications are recommended for greater efficacy and overseeding should be done if bentgrass infestations are high and the loss of the bentgrass would result in significant stand loss.

Table 1. Fall applications of Tenacity for selective removal of creeping bentgrass from Kentucky bluegrass. Treatments applied in 2005 and data shown from September 2006. All Tenacity treatments were significantly different from the untreated control but not from each other. University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Rate oz/acre	Applications	Timing	Creeping Bentgrass
Untreated	-----	-----	65 percent
4	2X	9/7;9/14	3 percent
4	3X	9/7;9/14;9/21	0 percent
6	2X	9/7;9/14	3 percent
6/4	2X/1X	9/7;9/14;9/21	3 percent
4	4X	9/7;.....;9/28	5 percent

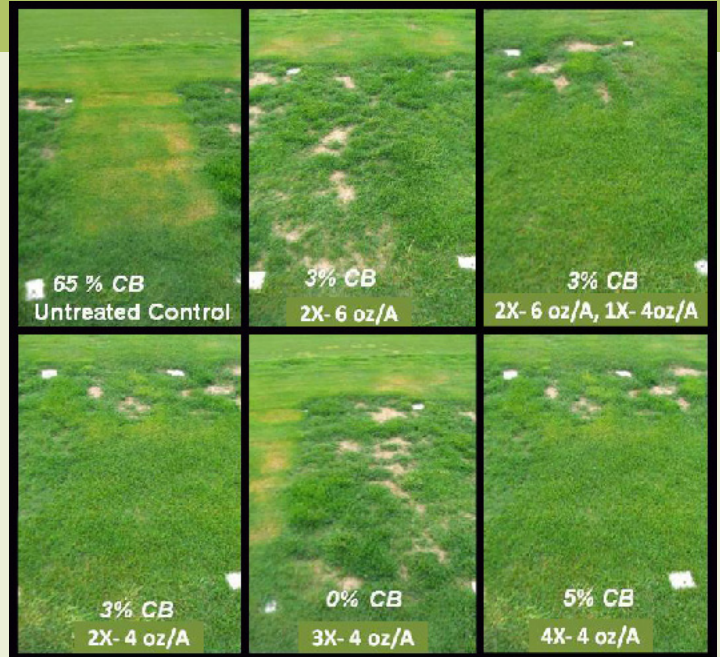


Figure 3. Fall applications of Tenacity for selective removal of creeping bentgrass from Kentucky bluegrass. Photographs taken in the spring following Tenacity application. University of Nebraska-Lincoln 2006

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OVER 300 BATTLE TO SAVE SHARP PARK GOLF COURSE

A standing-room-only crowd of over 300 supporters of San Francisco's endangered public golf courses Sharp Park and Lincoln Park, jam-packed the Sharp Park banquet room in Pacifica recently, as the San Francisco bay area golf community called for preservation of the 77-year-old Alister MacKenzie municipal golf course.

GCSANC Members were also in attendance including V.P. Thomas Bastis, CGCS, who informed event organizers that the chapter would be making a \$1000 donation in support of the cause. The funds will help offset costs for legal fees and environmental consultants.

Next on the agenda for the Sharp Park Golf Course will be the long-delayed report of the San Francisco Park and Recreation Department on potential alternative uses of the golf course, which is part of the 400-plus-acre San Francisco-owned Sharp Park. For more information about the Save Sharp Park campaign, visit: <http://www.sfpublicgolf.com/>.



ABOVE

V.P. **Thomas Bastis**, CGCS, was interviewed while in attendance at a "Save Sharp Park" fundraising event held recently at the MacKenzie-designed course in Pacifica, CA. Bastis was instrumental in encouraging the GCSANC to make a donation in support of the "Save Sharp Park" campaign. Funds raised will help offset legal and environmental consulting costs that have occurred in the battle to keep Sharp Park open for public play.

LEFT

(L to R) Advocates to keep the MacKenzie-designed Sharp Park Golf Course open include: GCSANC Member **David Sexton**, CGCS, GCSANC Communications Consultant **Emmy Moore Minister**, and GCSANC Member & Golf Historian **Sean Tully**. Sexton and Tully are both employed at the Meadow Club, a MacKenzie-designed course in Fairfax, CA.



(L to R) Gathered at the fundraising event to Save Sharp Park Golf Course are: **Dan Briesach**, **David Sexton**, CGCS, **Josh Smith**, **George Waters**, and **Sean Tully**. Guess who's who in this line up. One worked for a few years at Sharp Park Golf Course, another is an avid bird watcher, one is a very talented golf course artist, another is a tremendous shaper, and one is a respected golf historian. Can you guess who...is who?