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Welcome our new editor, Brian Nettz, CGCS, Presidio Golf Course! Brian brings to the Editor’s job a lot of association service and some exciting ideas for the publication. Stay tuned to hear from him with requests for articles and other contributions and ideas. Thru the Green in all its historical significance is really the “tie that binds,” Nor Cal members. It says a great deal about the popularity of this product when members move to other parts of California or the U.S. and continue to maintain membership in GCSANC. Curious, I asked some…and the answer is “I like to keep in touch with the people.”

California Golf Club was the venue for this year’s annual meeting. Thanks to all at Cal Club for the hospitality and wonderful setting for this meeting. Congratulations to all the Award Recipients, Presenters and Emmy Moore Minister for the beautify presentation table. For those unable to make the meeting, check out the items in this issue.

The annual membership renewal process is winding down. If you haven’t renewed yet, please contact the office to reinstate your membership. The membership has remained constant for 2009-2010. Not all professional associations share that membership. The membership has remained constant for the Green Section Meeting Green Hills Country Club

APRIL OR MAY
Superintendent Field Day

(Check website)

LUKE BENNETT is the new Superintendent at Tilden Park Golf Course in Berkeley. Luke was the assistant at Mayacama GC prior to his move. He is replacing Rodney Muller who is now at Empire Ranch GC. Brian Daum is the new super at Palo Alto Muni GC. He was Superintendent at Riverbend Golf Course in Fresno before moving north. PA Muni was maintained by the City of Palo Alto. It is now maintained by Valley Crest. Joe Vallaire, the former Supt still works for the City of Palo Alto and in addition to a Parks Supervisory Position he oversees the golf course maintenance contract…Justin Strickland has left El Macero Country Club and is the new Supt at Silverado Country Club in Napa. Both facilities are maintained by Troon Golf. Replacing him at El Macero is Cal Richardson who is from a golf course in the Mequite area…Kevin Sullivan has accepted the Superintendent position at San Jose Country Club. Kevin was the assistant there under the leadership of Jason Green. Jason has been promoted to the position of General Manager at San Jose Country Club…Eddie Wohlberg has left Las Positas GC in Livermore and is now the Supt at Boundary Oaks GC in Walnut Creek. Both facilities are maintained by CouseCo, Inc. Eddie is replacing Mike Vickers who has moved over to the City of Walnut Creek and is now a Parks Supervisor. The new Supt at Las Positas is Mark Condos. Most recently had been the assistant at Las Positas but prior to that he was the Superintendent at Brentwood Country Club in Brentwood, CA….

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

James Young
Round Hill Country Club
Class C

Mario Mandujano
Meadow Club
Class C

Efrain Camacho
Crystal Springs Golf Course
Class C

Jonathan McCarthy
San Francisco Golf Club
Class C

Christopher Eckstrom
The Course at Wente Vineyard
Class C

Medina Dana
Southern Links, Inc.
Affiliate

Neil Hladik, CGCS
Napa Golf Course
Class A

Graeme Parris
Parris Turf Equipment
Affiliate

Joe Ballmer
Syngenta
Affiliate

Todd Lawrence
Southern Links, Inc.
Affiliate

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For me the beginning of a new year is always a time for a renewal of hope and optimism. This year is no different. I am cautiously optimistic about the economy and our industry, but 2011 may be a lot like the past two years where we experienced flat to negative growth in rounds and revenue. The recent economic climate in the golf industry has presented enormous challenges to superintendents and vendors across the country and in order to survive we are all forced to look critically at the way we do business. We all need be prepared to make changes as quickly as the economic climate changes. It is necessary. Adapt or fail. The business of the Association is no different. The organization is constantly changing, adapting to the changes in the industry and demands of the membership.

In the past several years comments from superintendent members have focused on desires to have meetings with more continuing education units and affiliates want increased visibility to superintendents. Through our condensed meeting schedule and new sponsorship packages we are attempting to better serve the needs of all our members. This year’s event calendar has one less meeting than previous years, but will offer better educational opportunities while providing better value to all members. The new sponsorship packages provide flexible advertising options in a format that minimizes administrative work while delivering optimal value.

Serving on the board for the past four years has enriched my professional career and allowed me to contribute to a dynamic organization committed to advancing the profession of the golf course superintendent, improving the environment, and enriching the game of golf for those who play the game. In the coming year, as President, I plan to serve the membership of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California with the highest degree of integrity, professionalism, and excellence. My goal is to continue to shape the strategic direction of the association. Through effective communication and leadership, the 2011 Board of Directors and I hope to continue to provide valuable educational opportunities while managing association business and advancing the profession of the golf course superintendent. I look forward to serving the membership and a fantastic year!
OLD DEL MONTE GOLF RESULTS (December 10, 2010)

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<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>LOW GROSS</th>
<th>LOW NET</th>
<th>CLOSEST TO HOLE #4</th>
<th>CLOSEST TO HOLE #12</th>
<th>LONG DRIVE</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jeff Arneson, Redwood Empire Golf &amp; Country Club</td>
<td>74</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ross Brownlie, The Links At Mariners Point</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>X</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Russ Mitchell, Russell D. Mitchell &amp; Associates</td>
<td>63</td>
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<tr>
<td>Terry Grasso, CGCS, Sequoyah Country Club</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>8.7'</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bradford Langley, San Juan Oaks Golf Club</td>
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<td>Mike Ligon, Golf Ventures West</td>
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<tr>
<td>Danny Mahoney, Del Monte Golf Course</td>
<td>74</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

2010 ELGA Chapter Winners
PUBLIC FACILITIES
• Gary Ingram, CGCS
  Metropolitan Golf Links; Oakland; California GCSA
• Tim Powers, CGCS
  Crystal Springs Golf Course; Burlingame; N. California GCSA

2010 ELGA Merit Winners
PUBLIC FACILITIES
• Michael Garvale, CGCS
  Callippe Preserve Golf Course; Pleasanton
PRIVATE FACILITIES
• David Davies, CGCS
  TPC Stonebrae; Hayward

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California Club Special Guests

Former co-workers Mike Garvale, CGCS (Callippe Preserve GC) and Guest Speaker Lyn Nelson have a chance to catch up at the annual meeting.

GCSANC Members had an opportunity to visit while devouring a scrumptious lunch prepared by the California Golf Club chef.

Affiliate Members stand proudly at the 2011 Annual Meeting at the California Golf Club.

GCSANC Association Manager Barbara Mikel with new Thru the Green Editor Brian Nettz, CGCS. The 2011 Annual Meeting marks Barbara’s 20th year with the association.

The NCGA was well-represented at the 2011 Annual Meeting (L to R) GCSANC Member Todd Cook (Poppy Ridge GC), CEO Lyn Nelson and Director of Environmental & Water Resources Mike McCullough.
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GCSANC Award Winners

GCSANC Award Winners (L to R) Jeff Markow, CGCS; Rich Lavine, CGCS; Greg Dunn; Terry Stratton; Thomas Bastis, CGCS; Ryan Zuehlsdorf; and Awards Moderator David Sexton, CGCS.

In tribute to recent award winners, there was a full display of photos and memorabilia highlighting the honorees and their many accomplishments.

Board Member Tim Powers, CGCS, with 2010 Event Host Superintendent Brian Boyer and Greg Dunn Affiliate Merit Honoree.

Host Superintendents are recognized at Annual Meeting (L to R) Chris Mains, Nick Checklenis and Paul Chojnacky.

GCSANC Past President Thomas Bastis stands next to the award winner display.
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