Feed and Protect
Your Greens & Fairways
with Quality Products
from Ewing

Call one of our California Turf Specialists:
Larry Kaiser: 415.250.3187
Manny Piña: 916.835.9530
Jim Barbuto: 916.502.3287

Irrigation Supplies | Wireless Irrigation | Seed Fertilizer | PGRs | Insecticides | Fungicides

Redefine your expectations of a Tree Care Partner...

It begins with unparalleled expertise, a genuine passion for what we do, and an unwavering commitment to getting it right, every time. With over 40 years in tree care, ArborWorks, Inc. has long held a unique understanding of the integral role trees play in making a golf course special; adding beauty, creating challenge, and defining the very field of play. However, to keep a golf course beautiful and safe, trees require maintenance in the hands of skilled professionals.

ArborWorks. Expect More.

The professionals at ArborWorks, Inc. stand ready to assist you with all of your tree care needs. Call today to schedule a consultation with one of our Certified Arborists, free of charge.

ArborWorks
Professional tree care… Naturally

www.arborworksinc.com  866.936.8733  CA Contractor 879506

Provides MORE Soluble Calcium!
Keeps Working Longer!
On greens, fairways and roughs the unique combination of gypsum and calcium sulfate in Cal-CM Plus™ Dramatically Outperforms Plain Gypsum!

www.calcoplus.com  1-888-GYP-MINE
THE BENEFITS OF

BEST®

Professional Grade Fertilizer

- BEST Homogeneous Pellets
- Superior & Consistent Quality
- Outstanding Customer Service
- Quick Delivery of Multiple Product
- 75+ Years of Proven Results
- Staff & Field Training
- Non – Staining Iron Pellets
- Polynon – X-Cote – Umaxx – Uflexx – Avail Technologies
- Exceptional Value

Rated #1 brand topdresser in NGF Turf
Brand Share Report Spinner Topdressers
Material Handling
Meter-R-Matic Topdressers
Tri-Wave Overseeders

For Free Demo
Scott Dickson
408.597.7802 Mobile
2715 Lafayette Street, Santa Clara, CA 95050
408.727.5660 www.turfandindustrialequipment.com

TMT ENTERPRISES, INC.

GCSANC Members Since 1976
Phone: 408-432-9040

IN BUSINESS SINCE 1961

Exciting Announcements From TMT Enterprises!

Welcome new representative, Steve Byrne. Steve’s background as a golf course superintendent brings great knowledge & perspective to TMT. We are happy to have him on the team. You can reach Steve at 510-815-6003 or email steve@tmtenterprises.net

We are excited to announce that TMT is now offering the full line of products and services from Sustainable Turf Science to our customers. Full soil & water analysis and custom tailored nutrient programs to help you optimize turf & soil health naturally.

We offer you the widest selection of top dressing & bunker sand of any supplier in California. Divot mix, organics, aggregates, cart path materials, Bunker Binder, gypsum, lime, compost tea & more. TMT Enterprises is a full-service vendor.

Web: www.tmtenterprises.net
Email: info@tmtenterprises.net
The 2012 U.S. Open Golf Championship at San Francisco’s Olympic Club

▲ The crew chow line
▼ Jason Green, Jim Alwine and Josh Clevenger

▲ Nor Cal with the Trophy

▲ California Volunteers
▼ Nor Cal boys

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California
Jon Christensen’s U.S. Open mowing debut
COMPANION® A BROAD SPECTRUM BIOLOGICAL FUNGICIDE

• Prevents and Controls Turf Disease
• Improves Turf Vigor
• Makes Fungicides More Powerful
• Increases Rooting

To learn how Growth Products can help your greens, call Keith Giertych today at (408) 687-3225 • kgiertych@growthproducts.com

COMPANION® LIQUID BIOLOGICAL FUNGICIDE

• PROVEN • TESTED • RELIABLE • CONSISTENT •
• EACH GALLON CONTAINS 55 BILLION SPORES OF BACILLUS SUBTILIS GB03

What You’ve Been Looking for in an Organic and Organic Based Fertilizer...

at the RIGHT PRICE!

• Slow Release Nitrogen and Variably Releasing Nitrogen Blends
• Promotes Turf Density and Speeds Aeration Recovery
• Enhances Soil Structure for Improved Disease Resistance

Available in 50 lb. bags,
1 ton rates and bulk

For more information visit our website www.NatureTechFertilizers.com or call 209-394-1171

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California
Wow! I think it’s been nearly a year since my last rambling. I guess this is an annual contribution to TTG? I have a few musings.

“I don’t have the time.” There’s one we hear all the time. I happen to sit on the HOA board where I live. As you can imagine, this is the universal response from any whiner when you ask them if they would like to take on solving the very issue they are whining about.

“People aren’t picking up their dog feces.”

“Well, why don’t you help us all out and email us some suggestions or form a committee and help correct the problem?”

“I don’t have time; I work full time and have kids.”

Uh huh.

In a similar vein, Mike Souza has been a tremendous help in creating the new TTG. On one occasion Mike emailed out no less than 12 profile requests and got two back. Are you really that busy you can’t get a photo and respond to a dozen or two inane questions? I doubt it. To those who responded, thank you. I hope you enjoyed how the profile turned out.

Congratulations to the entire Olympic Club staff on a very successful Open! Certainly Pat Finlen, CGCS, is the face of the department and the look and conditioning of the course, but knowing Pat some 15 years and having worked with him 3, I know Pat would be anxious to spread the congratulatory feeling to everyone on his staff. Well done to all staff and volunteers at the O Club! Leave it to Pat; hosting the Open is not enough. Pat has the pleasure of hosting a renovation immediately before and immediately following the Open. Some guys just have to bring it up a notch.

I’m not sure what to think of the clothing choices in professional golf right now. While I do like the more sneaker shoe look, I’m just not that big a fan of the wacky pants and weird colors. It’s a painful look on HDTV. Although I doubt the USGA would condone my camo cargo shorts and Harley t-shirt look were I on the tour.

Speaking of pro golf, I’ve heard some rumbling of Casey Martin and his cart among the golfing masses here at our course. Really?? I know golf is traditional and all, but c’mon...get over yourselves if you think a guy who needs a cart shouldn’t have one. A complete perpetuation of the “old fogy, elite” golf stereotype. Let him play and let him be an inspiration to some 12-year-old kid with a similar disorder. I bet if he was a vet injured by an IED there would be no rumbling.

Speaking of veterans, I give Dave Davies, CGCS, my own personal 21-gun salute. Dave has a tireless energy for helping those who gave more than their time and energy in the pursuit of protecting our freedom. Were it not for these people, we couldn’t sit back in comfort and complain about how another crappy election is upon us with another lousy choice of candidates and so on and so forth. Thanks, Dave, for giving so much of yourself for those who gave too much of themselves.

Enough diatribes. Out to see if the grass is still growing...
Covers all the angles. Literally.
The new 220 E-Cut Hybrid.

The first John Deere walk greens mower with a full-contouring cutting unit.
The new 220 E-Cut Hybrid’s ball joint design combined with an electric reel drive permits maximum movement of the cutting unit to follow contours. And the cutting unit’s range of motion can be adjusted to meet the most demanding conditions. This unique cutting system can even steer through the clean-up pass—reducing stress around the outside of the green. All while a mechanical-drive traction drum keeps the mower speed consistent (to maintain a consistent frequency of clip no matter how severe an incline). All this technology was first suggested by you. So no wonder it performs flawlessly. Call us for a demo today.
Assistant Superintendent Profile, Justin Brimley

Name: Justin Brimley  
Employer: Santa Clara Golf and Tennis  
Position: Assistant Superintendent  
Years in the Business: 16  


GCSANC Work or Interests: Attending more meetings and getting to know my peers.

Other Organizations: N.C.G.A.

Family: Single—never married.

What was the first car you ever owned? ’84 Honda Accord.

How fast did you drive it? Took to the red line at 110, was probably burning more oil then gas at that point.

What is your favorite band? Disturbed.

How did you get into the business? I started with a grow in/seed in at Sun City Roseville then progressed to the various clubs through my maturation.

What did you learn that they never taught you in college? People skills, how to really manage turfgrass.

Please list your fantasy foursome: Phil, Freddy, Clint, and Palmer.

What is #1 on your bucket list? An exotic car on Nurburgring for a day.

What’s the best bit of professional advice ever tossed your way? It’s not the quantity of the work you perform, but the quality.

What accomplishment are you most proud of? The propagation of an upper putting green during my internship at Diablo Country Club.

What’s your favorite restaurant? T & T at the Luxor, Las Vegas.

Beer or wine? N/A.

Favorite course to play: Troon North.

Ipod top 5: Disturbed-Ten Thousand Fists and The Sickness, Pink Floyd-The Wall, Metallica-Master and And Justice.

What’s your favorite vacation spot? Phoenix/Scottsdale.

Favorite hobby: Golf.

Strangest thing you’ve ever seen on a golf course: Watched a snow flurry work its way down 18 fairway at Diablo Country Club—lasted all of 30 seconds.

Name your top superintendent influences: Todd Lyijynen, Jim Alwine, Mike Kaveny, and Grayson Coney.

Name your top life influences: The values my parents installed in me tops the list.

Lowest score you ever shot and course: 73 after bogies on the last 3 holes at Santa Clara Golf and Tennis. Couldn’t bring it home.

The hardest part of your job: Staying ahead of the dew draggers who tee it up at the crack of dawn daily.

The most rewarding thing in your job is: Cruising the course on a Friday and seeing everything manicured and ready for the weekend.

Few people know: I like to sing.

If you weren’t in the business of growing grass what would you be doing? Probably using my Associates degree to manage in another market.

What’s in your garage? Stuff if I had one.

What’s in your closet at home? The usual: clothes, books, and other things I haven’t used in some time.

What’s in your office? Central, as built, putting green flags, books, mudder boots, rain gear, clothes that need washing.

What magazines do you subscribe to? None, don’t subscribe to rags or mags.

Do you collect anything, and why? I seem to collect my fair share of golf balls (never pearls)—go figure.

Worst piece of equipment ever owned? ’84 Accord that had a faulty Locktronsics security system in it. It would shut the car down and you never knew when it was going to happen.

Worst place you have ever slept? Fishing on the Feather River we camped and were eaten alive by mosquitoes. Cover yourself up and find about a thousand of them on your bag after a minute or two.

Stupidest thing your wife has asked you to do? Don’t have to worry about that yet.

Closest to death you ever came? Almost slid into a ravine I was edging with a 72 at Sunset Whitney when I hit a leaker on the edge of it.

The invention that you thought of but someone else made the million dollars and not you? GPS.

Do you expect to collect on social security? Are you kidding—that fund is a ponzi scam.
How time flies! Summer is here and the Fourth of July is right around the corner. I hope all of our members are enjoying the good weather, spending time with friends and family and even getting out to play the occasional round of golf.

I’d like to give a shout out to CGCS Pat Finlen and his entire staff at The Olympic Club in San Francisco. They hosted a terrific national championship. Congratulations on a job well done and thank you for showing the world a glimpse of the quality of golf on the West Coast.

I recently had the opportunity to attend a Southern California GCSA Assistants Meeting at Whittier Narrows Golf Course in Rosemead. I came away impressed with the knowledge and dedication to the golf business that these young assistants possess. They are the future of our business.

With that in mind, I urge all of our superintendents to make sure that your assistants are involved with your local GCSAA Chapter. If they are not current members, take them to an education/golf event and get them signed up. It’s a great reward for all of their hard work and it will provide them with additional leadership, communication and networking skills. I realize that it is often difficult to do this with shrinking crew sizes, but finding a way to make it a priority will pay dividends for you and your facility in the future.

Lastly, I have been fielding some questions on why GCSAA changed the dates of the National Championship and Golf Classic so that they coincide with the GCSAA Education Conference and Golf Industry Show in San Diego Feb. 4-8, 2013. The move comes as a result of surveys and feedback from members, chapters and industry participants. Respondents indicated that the length of the tournament and conference was a deterrent in attending all or parts of the activities.

The move will help condense the events and those who choose to play in the National Championship and Golf Classic will still have numerous educational opportunities available Wednesday, Thursday and Friday including sessions that will be held on the tradeshow floor.

Have a great 4th of July and I look forward to seeing you at upcoming events. If you have any questions, don’t hesitate to contact me at jjensen@gcsaa.org.