

Officers & Directors 2012

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Empire Ranch Golf Club

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Office Notes

BY BARBARA MIKEL



Hope all of you are enjoying the fall season. I know it gets busy this time of the year, but I am looking forward to seeing a lot of you at the 31st Superintendents Institute. There are some new and trending items for this event, so bring your computer and join us. gcsanc.com/events/

I was able to attend a CAG meeting in late October. I got to say hello to some of my good golf friends and meet some new ones. By all reports, golf play is up in northern California and hopefully the trend will continue up.

We are heading for another end of year and with that, GCSANC membership renewal. Your membership is calendar year, January to December. If you joined the association this year your renewal charge is prorated for the last quarter only. The first renewal reminder has been sent and you need to renew by December 31 to avoid a penalty. The online process is really quite easy and allows you to pay by credit card if you wish. An invoice and renewal receipt is emailed for all forms of payment. Please remember to make any changes to your membership information and current job status as you renew. If you need help give us a call. There will be a final

notice sent just before the end of December.

I was pleased to read an article from an industry publication regarding reducing number of emails and eblasts to be sent. We have tried to decrease the email from the association by consolidating important items in a concise format. We try to keep the web calendar timely for meetings. Allied industries and associations offering programs of interest are also posted in our Nor Calendar section. The Nor Calendar can be incorporated into your calendar and has an option to view the events in a monthly or yearly format.

The GIS in San Diego will once again find the California GCSA hosting a hospitality room Wednesday, Feb 6 on the USS Midway. This promises to be a great event on the hangar deck of the historic aircraft carrier.

Make sure you visit the website to register: californiagcsa.org/california-room/.

This is NOT the year to wait for the "night of" to decide to attend. All the food is catered and there is a limited amount based on attendance count. The "galley" of the aircraft carrier isn't cooking! Don't be disappointed. If you want some great food, beverages and the opportunity to say hello to all your friends, make your reservations EARLY.

Naumann's Nor Cal News

Joel Brinkman has left Coyote Creek Golf Course in San Jose. He is going to Fresno and will be the new supt. at Sunnyside CC. He is replacing **Rob Williams** who went to Stockton CC. Leaving Stockton CC to go to Southern California is **Jim Alwine**. He has accepted the Superintendent position at Bernardo Heights CC in North San Diego Co.....**Paul Tarasoff** has left Monterey Peninsula Country Club and is now the Superintendent at Turlock Country Club in Turlock.....**Josh Lewis** a little over a year ago was the Assistant under Paul Chojnacky at Pasatiempo GC in Santa Cruz. He went up to Chamber Bay GC in Washington in order to help with the upcoming US Open. He is now the Supt at Chambers Bay and another Ex-Nor Cal guy, **Eric Johnson** (from Spyglass Hill years ago) is the Agronomist for Chambers Bay and the US Open.....

NorCalendar

NOVEMBER 12-13
Superintendents Institute
Oakhurst Golf Club

DECEMBER 7
Holiday Golf and Dinner
Del Monte Golf Course

JAN 14
GCSANC Annual Elections and Awards
Empire Ranch Golf Club

FEB 6
California Room at GCSAA Conference & Show
USS Midway, San Diego

MAR 18
USGA/NCGA/GCSANC Green Section Conference
Sequoyah Country Club, Oakland

More Details?

Visit www.gcsanc.com/events/next/

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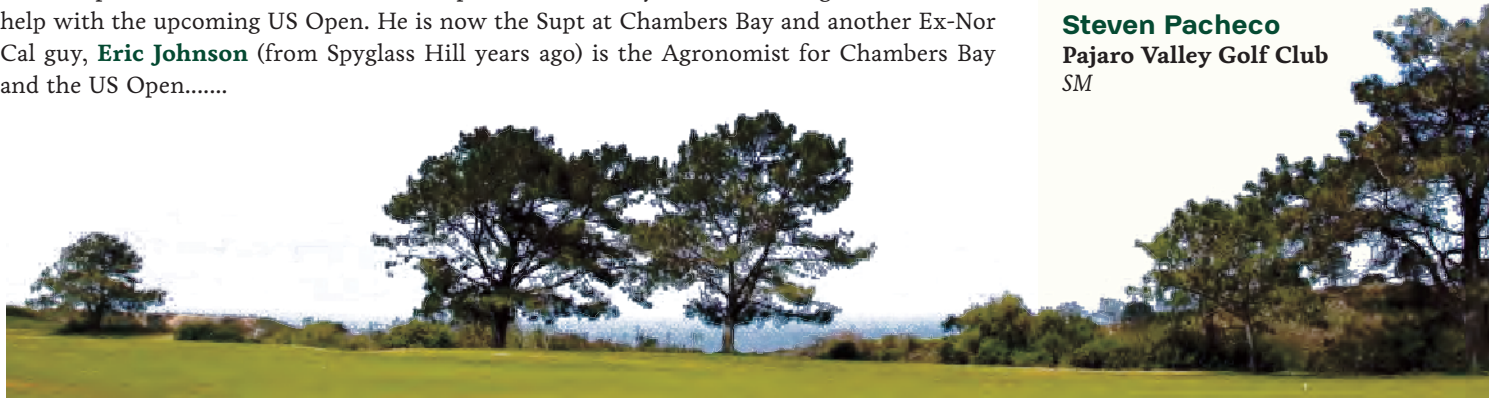
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SM



President's Message

BY RODNEY MULLER



Serving on the GCSANC Board: Is it for you?

With the Presidential Election coming Nov 6th, the Democratic and Republican candidates are getting their messages out to the public. Each party vets its best candidate to run for office through debates and election campaigns, finally endorsing its best candidate to become President of The United States. That's not the case with the GCSANC Board of Directors... we leave Super Pac funding and mud slinging to the professionals; all that is needed here is good old fashioned "want-to."

I remember when I received the call from Barbara Mikel. I was on break at a DPR meeting when she inquired if I was interested in serving on the Board of Directors. I always knew that I would serve my local chapter one-day, I just didn't know when that would happen. Questions arose in my mind such as, "Do I have time to commit to the position? Will my employer see it as a value-add to my position and not view it as taking time away from my paying job? Do enough of my peers know whom I am to vote me into the position?" After all, who isn't afraid of failure? I told Barbara that I would think about it and get back to her.

After assessing the time requirements and getting the blessing from my General Manager, Regional Superintendent and Regional Manager, I decided that it was, indeed time. My nomination was made for the Board, I submitted my candidate statement and I ran unopposed. You know that scene in the movie when people standing shoulder-to-shoulder in a line and someone asks for a volunteer for a deadly assignment? Then everyone but one guy takes a step backwards. It wasn't exactly like that scenario... but close. I was uncertain about what to expect and what specific skill set I could bring to the Association, but none-the-less I volunteered.

I knew I was joining a great group of strong leaders and they would guide me in the right direction if I appeared to lose my compass. What I didn't realize is how much I would grow as a Superintendent while serving our chapter. I have networked with industry people and superintendents that I would have never had access to if not for serving on the BODs. I was subjected to difficult decision-making concerning our industry and association business. I served on committees to help program education for our members to strengthen their skills as Superintendents. This

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valuable exposure has opened the door to further my professional development and respect as a golf course superintendent.

Some of the skills you will take away with you while volunteering in your association are:

- planning and organizational skills;
- problem solving in a team environment; and
- setting and achieving goals.

If you have been thinking about serving on the GCSANC Board, please give me or any other Board member a call. We would be happy to answer questions about getting you involved with the process. If you are unsure about the time commitment to the board, committee work is also another way to get involved. Test the water, so-to-speak. You don't have to jump in headfirst. Without committee members many of our educational events would not happen. Being a committee member is an excellent way to serve your local GCSA to see if it's for you.

—Rodney Muller

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Classic Golf Books

BY SEAN TULLY, MEADOW CLUB

Get to know your architecture.

There is good architecture and there is bad. Anyone who knows me knows that I have a preference for older courses and of the new courses, I am partial to a select group of architects. As the Superintendent at a course, I feel it is very important to know who designed your course and some facts about your given architects style and design philosophies.

There have been numerous articles and books written on the subject of golf course architecture, so it is interesting that two of the more noted books on golf course architecture were published within a year of each other, written by two very wealthy and well traveled men, both lived in California, and some of their best work was still ahead of them.

"The Links," by Robert Hunter was first and talked of his trips to the UK and playing over some famous golf courses. The book looks at the design of golf courses and was written by Hunter following his first design work at Berkeley Country Club. Shortly after "The Links" was published he partnered with Alister MacKenzie and they designed Meadow Club, Cypress Point, Valley Club, Northwood, and Sharp Park.

"Golf Architecture in America," by George C. Thomas followed Hunter's lead and dealt with much of the same topics as to the design of golf courses. Thomas was already a noted architect by this

time and is most known for his work at Riviera, LACC, and Bel-Air.

Both books are wonderfully written and act to set the tone for what was to become the golden age of golf course design. The photos included in both books make them both a wonderful resource to study of golf course architecture for the beginner or the expert. The following adverts were included in golf publications like the earlier version of Golfdom and a San Francisco based magazine called the "The Fairway." Both books can be found online and for a reasonable price. Enjoy.

The first American book on golf course architecture

THE LINKS

By Robert Hunter

Leading golf architects and players throughout the world pronounce this volume a classic that is bound to have a strong influence in bettering the character of golf course design.

It is illustrated with many illuminating plates showing some of the world's famous holes—and some of the common and expensive faults in course design.

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The 2013 GCSAA Education Conference and the Golf Industry Show will bring you the most highly acclaimed education in the industry, the latest tips and techniques from experts in your field, countless networking opportunities with your peers and a preview of the most innovative products on the market today. This one week is packed full of everything you need to ensure the continued success of your career and facility well into the future.



Opportunities in San Diego

- 550 hours of education in one place
- 100+ seminars (25 new seminars)
- 50 sessions
- 150+ experts to learn from
- 3.5+ education points available during the week
- 500+ exhibitors on the show floor (60+ new exhibitors)
- 180,000 net square feet of exhibit space

This event promises a return on investment that well exceeds the cost of attendance.

Here's what your peers are saying about the event:

- 81% are confident that the conference and show makes them more valuable to their employer
- 81% feel that the conference and show delivers real value to their golf facility
- 81% picked up a tip or technique that they could take back and immediately apply at their facility
- 75% say that the conference and show is an indispensable component of their professional development
- 62% learned a practice or technique that could result in a cost savings for their facility

The return:

- Education that provides cost-saving measures for your facility
- Face time with experts who will answer your most challenging questions
- Product giveaways for you and your facility
- Innovative resources that keep you up-to-date on the latest technology in the industry
- Solutions that enhance the sustainability of your facility
- Tips for managing your facility on a tight budget
- Hands-on review of the most innovative products and services on the market
- Countless networking opportunities that spark new ideas
- Show floor discounts on products and services that benefit your facility



For more information, visit www.gcsaa.org



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The **2013 National Championship and Golf Classic** will hit the beaches of San Diego, promising beautiful weather, championship golf courses and luxurious accommodations.

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The tournament will be held in the same location as the conference and show to help you reduce travel costs between the various events. Also new this year, the golf tournament will move from a Friday – Sunday schedule to a Sunday – Tuesday schedule. This has been done in an effort to reduce the time away from your facility. Along with this new schedule, the golf tournament will now include four separate and stand-alone events:

- **Four-Ball Mixer on Sunday, Feb. 3**
- **A new event featuring a scramble or shamble format on Monday, Feb. 4**
- **Golf Classic on Monday and Tuesday, Feb. 4-5**
- **National Championship on Monday and Tuesday, Feb. 4-5**

Join us in San Diego to:

- Discover solutions to your biggest challenges while networking on and off the course
- Find out first-hand how the game of golf impacts what you do every day
- Develop long-term, valuable relationships with other industry professionals
- View maintenance practices while playing several top-notch golf courses
- Play against your peers in a friendly competition
- Win money for your chapter

Back by popular demand:

- Prize money awarded to the chapter team competition winners in net and gross division
- Mobile pro shop gift certificates to shop for your own tee prize



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- Maderas Golf Club
- Aviara Golf Club
- Pauma Valley Country Club
- Morgan Run Club & Resort



- 400 of your peers in a casual setting
- 30+ hours of networking on and off the course
- Join your peers on Sunday, February 3, from 2-6 p.m. to watch the big game and enjoy refreshments

For more information, visit www.gcsaa.org