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Holiday Meeting

DECEMBER 7, 2012, DEL MONTE GOLF COURSE



▲ "Local Productions" DJ Nick Finlen provided fantastic dance music.

▲ Liz Lopic DHR Construction with sponsor board.



▲ The Ligon's hit the dance floor.

We would like to thank & point out our Holiday Meeting sponsors!

- | | |
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| Bob Lopic | Orinda Country Club |
| Doug Nickels | Nickels Golf Group |
| Smith Ryan | Mid Cal Tractor |
| Jeffrey Markow, CGCS | Cypress Point Club |



▲ **Enjoying the evening.**



▲ **Mr. and Mrs. Dan Rogers.**

Golf Results

Holiday Party, 12-7-2012, Del Monte Golf Course
Gift Certificates, Pebble Beach Company

SUPERINTENDENTS

1st Place Gross	Ross Brownlie	71	\$100.00
2nd Place Gross	David Hayes	75	\$75.00
3rd Place Gross	Mike Garvale	77	\$50.00
1st Place Net	Brad Langley	70	\$100.00
2nd Place Net	Terry Grasso	70	\$75.00
3rd Place Net	Tom Bevan	70	\$50.00

AFFILIATES

1st Place Gross	Ryan Smith	72	\$100.00
2nd Place Gross	Tony Whelan	79	\$75.00
3rd Place Gross	Thor Larson	83	\$50.00
1st Place Net	Mike Kropp	70	\$100.00
2nd Place Net	Doug Nickels	71	\$75.00
3rd Place Net	Tom Jackson	72	\$50.00

Long Drive Hole #16	David Hayes		\$75.00
Straightest Hole #3	Adrian Bertens		\$75.00
Closest to the Pine			
#4	Doug Nickels	27"	\$75.00
#6	Spencer Hughes	13"	\$75.00
#12	Ross Brownlie	2'	\$75.00
#14	Mike Phillips	6'7"	\$75.00
Worst score	Salvador Villalobos		\$50.00



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Running Because I Care

BY DALE SIMPSON

On December 8, 2012, I ran in the Walnut Creek International Half Marathon. I didn't run because I am a good runner or because I even like to run. Neither of those two statements are, necessarily, true of me. I ran with Team World Vision to raise money to provide clean water for people in Africa. You see there are hundreds of thousands of people in Africa that don't have access to clean water. At least they don't have access to clean water the way you and I have. Thousands of African children die every day because of the lack of clean drinking water. They die from diarrhea and other illnesses related to drinking unclean water. World Vision is a humanitarian organization that is working to provide clean water to remote villages all over Africa by installing clean water wells. The only way they can do this is by various fund-raising efforts. One fund-raising effort that has been a huge success is through marathons and half marathons all across the World. In the Walnut Creek International Half Marathon alone, Team World Vision raised \$150,000. Think about it, \$50 will supply one child in Africa clean drinking water for life. So, with the money raised by Team World Vision, 3000 African children will have clean water for life and will not have to suffer from the illnesses and possible death related to drinking unclean water.

Through my fund-raising efforts, I was able to raise \$1000 for Team World Vision.

I was able to do this in large part because of the generosity of the Golf Course Superintendent Association of Northern California, who donated \$500. This would not have been possible if it weren't for each and every one of the Members who support the Association. I am so proud to belong to



an association that cares and supports, not only its Members, but truly cares for people in need all over the World. This is not the first time that the GCSANC has supported me in my efforts to make a difference in the World. The GCSANC also supported a mission trip to Thailand in 2008, where I helped in distributing wheelchairs to disabled people there who could not otherwise afford a wheelchair.

By the way, I was able to complete the 13.1-mile run in 1:40:25. I know, as golf course superintendents, you are all doing the math to figure out the mile/minute average. Hopefully, you all came up with 7-minute 40-second mile average. I did all of this dressed up as Kid Rock! Not too bad for an old man, huh? A little tip for anyone that is thinking of running in a half marathon. Blue jean cut-off shorts are a bad idea! I have to admit that as I trained for this, my competitive juices started flowing. But, at the end of the day, my purpose and motivation for running was clearly stated on the back of my team jersey and was the Team World Vision motto: "I run because I care." I just want to thank each Member and the Board of Directors of the GCSANC for the financial support that you have given me in raising money for clean water in Africa. The GCSANC is an association that truly cares for its Members, the environment and people all over the world.

NorCal Blogs

A formal education got most of us in the door of many clubs, but first-hand experience is how we have made a name for ourselves. With the popularity of Golf Course Superintendent Blogs, what better way to get a first-hand experience?

With our newest addition of *Thru the Green*, we want to introduce you to some of the blogs that are in your area. There are many talented superintendents in the GCSANC that are regularly blogging which we hope will further your education in the ever-changing business of growing grass.

Brian Boyer, Cinnabar Hills Golf Club
www.cinnabarhills.blogspot.com

Austin Daniels, Monterey Pines
www.montereypinesmaintenance.blogspot.com

Kevin Breen, La Rinconada
<http://kevinpbreen.blogspot.com/>

Josh Clevenger, Claremont CC
www.claremontturf.blogspot.com

Ken Williams, Stanford
<http://sgcsuperintendent.blogspot.com/>

Doug Ayres, Coral de Tierra
<http://corralmaintenance.blogspot.com/>

Brian Bagley, The Villages Golf and CC
<http://villagesgolfmaintenance.blogspot.com/>

Rodney Muller, Empire Ranch
<http://empireranchgcm.blogspot.com/>

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Superintendent Profile, Thomas Bastis



Too many times we hear about Superintendents being burnt out from the stress of what is turf management. It is certainly easy to do with start times that border on ridiculous and go until the end of a 6pm board meeting because those board members work “regular” hours. Some can do that day in and day out, but for most of us mortals, it helps to have something that gets us away from golf; a release. For Bay Area Superintendents Thomas Bastis and Kevin Breen, they have found their release through running and I don’t just mean a jog through the park.

When did you have the idea to do this run and why did you decide to do it now?

I’ve had this bucket list run on my mind for at least a year but it’s been something that I know I could only attempt if I had a clear window of 3 months of solid running and not the other Mtn. biking, and kayaking that would distract me. Then I had a couple of people do it earlier in the year and I went through something called “FOMO” Fear of Missing Out. That’s kind of where I get that little extra motivation to do longer or harder miles. My normal motivation for doing longer miles comes from how good/bad a week I have had....

What is the name of the run or trailhead?

The run is called R2R2R or Rim to Rim to Rim. You start on the south side of the Grand Canyon at about 7,000 feet and head down the South Kaibob trailhead or Bright Angel. After about 2 hours and 5,000 feet of solid descent, you cross the Colorado River utilizing a suspension bridge and continue on the Arizona trail through Phantom Ranch across the canyon floor. I think it is after another 3ish hours of running that the pitch of the North Rim begins going very vertical and finally tops out at 8,000 ft. Half done and 23 miles down...23miles back.

How long have you been involved with adventuring/ultrarunning?

Myself and fellow superintendent Scott Bower (Martis Camp) started in 2004... I think. I started running a lot more because it is a great base of training for the other disciplines; kayaking and Mountain Biking. I’ve recently started picking each one of the disciplines to concentrate on for a year and compete in one big event. For instance, I spent a chunk of training time 2 years ago and completed the Tahoe Rim100 mtn. bike race, another year a 300 mile kayak race from Tampa Bay to Key Largo. It keeps thing different and I end up learning so much from hanging out with people that, that is all they do.

Have you run from an early age?

I think I had a normal childhood but don’t remember running a ridiculous amount. I was always able to pass the Presidential Physical fitness test in only running the running portion. I ran in high school but not college. I was more into biking in college but didn’t have enough time to really have a go at it.

How does running hours on end compare to being a superintendent?

Running is a bit like maintenance...if you do a little bit each day, you can stay in reasonable shape. If you don’t run often...it’s a mess. I think the running long hours or racing for days has taught me not to look at how longer the entire race is but to break down things into digestible parts. Kinda like eating an elephant...one bite at a time. I guess I’m just looking at a bigger elephant than most people care to think about.

Do you get more perspective on your job while running? What did you gain from this experience?

I have definitely solved a lot or have had a lot of time to think about problems. I rarely get angry...so I don’t run to blow off steam-not that a bit of stress is lost while running. A couple of things I get from running:

1. I think my members and even friends enjoy hearing some of the crazy stories or it’s easy to talk about something other than turf with me as a result.
2. Having another passion besides the golf course puts a lot of my time management in perspective.
3. If I want to run...I have to be more organized and efficient or it just doesn’t work.
4. Now that I have convinced another superintendent to run locally, (Kevin Breen) I am able to pass ideas, thoughts, and questions past him. The other guys we run with love it because it can be interesting stuff to hear.

What’s next on your list?

Next on the list running: maybe the Lost Coast in Northern California, the Napali Coast in Kauai and back to Patagonia, Chile for a 10-day adventure race in the Torres de Paine.

Surprisingly, running hours on end has a lot of similarities to a superintendent’s job. Throughout any run, a person goes through an emotional roller coaster. There is the initial feeling of being strong, then you get tired, a pain may pop up, you’ll think you can’t finish, and then finally your strength is back for the finish.



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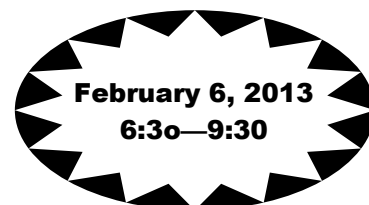
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For questions or additional information please contact the association office at 559-298-4853 or email californiagcsa@aol.com



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