

# Officers & Directors 2013

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**ON THE COVER:**  
TPC Stonebrae, Hayward, hole 4.

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# Office Notes

By **BARBARA MIKEL**

## Then & Now

**1990**

**David Piper** Intern, Poppy Hills NCGA

**Peter Fredeen** Intern, Monterey Peninsula NCGA

**Brian Bagley** Superintendent, The Villages Golf & CC

**Manual Souza** Superintendent, Poppy Hills Golf Course

**Now**

J.R. Simplot/Best

Stockton Country Club

Superintendent, The Villages Golf & CC

Superintendent, Poppy Hills Golf Course

**1991**

**Jim Ferrin** Superintendent, Cameron Park CC

**Now**

Superintendent, Sun City Roseville

### Turf Project Update

As previously noted in our newsletter, Sunnyvale Municipal Golf Course was selected as the site for a Bent grass Trial Study project by Dr. Ali Harivandi. The site which was chosen is located behind the twelfth and thirteenth tee. Three plots measuring 60' x 100' each were sited with the entire plot measuring 220' x 110'. One plot is sand base with the other two plots native soil. After conferring with Dr. Harivandi and Ted Moore of Shelton Transfer Service, Inc., it was decided to use Olympia #125, #30 mesh sand. The sand was to be sat 12' depth with the total amount used to be approximately 246 tons. The native soil plots were amended with redwood fir bark. Nutrients were then determined and incorporated into the plots. The sand plot was amended with 140 pounds of superphosphate and 70 pounds of gypsum. This corrected a high pH problem experienced previously during reconstruction on our new greens at Sunnyvale Municipal Golf Course. The native soil plots were treated with starter fertilizer, Hydroprill 15-15-15. The border between and around the plots were outlined in Savannah Rye Sod. Anticipating an irrigation renovation to our system, we designed the plots with Toro 660 Series Valve-in Heads. Again, we would like to thank Ted Moore for the sand and amendments; Pacific Sod for the Rye Sod; Mike Ginnelli, West Star for the irrigation heads, Craig Stenehjem from R.V. Cloud for the PVC Pipe. This is the most complete set of bent grass trials anywhere in the United States. January 1991 is the first month the trials have been rated. They will be rated once a month for the next three years. A field day is planned for the summer of 1991, for all to come and see the plots and to monitor their progression. Keep reading this newsletter for the dates.

### California Golf Club

Bent grass video.  
[http://www.tee-2-green.com/media\\_gallery.php](http://www.tee-2-green.com/media_gallery.php)

**1993**

**Bob Lopic** Superintendent, Boulder Creek GC

**Joel Ahern** San Jose Country Club

**Now**

Superintendent, Orinda Country Club

Stanford University, Sports Turf

**1994**

**Thomas Bastis** Intern, Spyglass Golf Course

**Now**

Superintendent, California Golf Club



## President's Message By JON CHRISTENSEN

### Are You Being Social?

Social Media. For some this may be two strange words to be mentioned in the same sentence, for others, this may be commonplace. In this day and age of social media, it is hard to not be inundated with messages from so many different avenues such as Facebook, Twitter, Foursquare, LinkedIn, etc. We may be resistant in some cases to use social media and the advantages (or sometimes disadvantages) it offers, and some may see it as a passing fad so they are hesitant to use it.

However, it has been here for quite some time now and doesn't appear to be going away. How does this all matter to the GCSANC and you, our members? It is another avenue to open the lines of communication from your Board of Directors to our membership about coming events, industry related news, association members doing special things, etc. If you have any ideas of what you would like to see us post on social media, we are all ears, just let us know. Our main avenue of social media communication is Facebook and Twitter, so please be sure to "like" our Facebook page and "follow" us on Twitter. I would really like to see us double our numbers in both these areas by the end of the year, so please add us to your list.

On another note, I would like to thank those who participated in our surveys recently. The information gained from these is very valuable to the Board as we make current and future plans. The re-

sponse rate to these surveys is above the normal average response rate, which makes us an envy of other associations. Thanks again for your help!

Lastly, I would like to inform you of a change being discussed by the Board of Directors for our annual awards. In the past, all of our award nominations came from the Awards Committee, which is comprised of past award winners and Association members, and also peer nomination from other GCSANC members. We would like to increase the field of nominees by including other club officials in the nomination process. There are multiple ways we would communicate the nomination process, but basically our club managers, greens committees, club professionals, etc., would also have the ability to nominate a Superintendent for the Turfgrass Excellence Award in the both the Public and Private categories. Many of those we work with on a daily basis are more aware of how Superintendents goes above and beyond more so than our peers may be, so increasing those who can nominate makes sense. We would insure the integrity and history of the award through our Committee process. The board discussions have been very positive in regards to this change, and I too would love to hear your thoughts. Feel free to e-mail me at Christenson.j.m@gmail.com if you have any opinions on this possible change.

Happy Aerification season!

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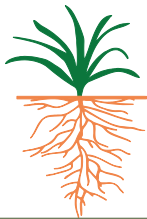
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## NorCalendar

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OCTOBER 21-22

**Assistant Superintendent Boot Camp, Survive & Thrive**  
Monterey

DECEMBER 6, 2013

**Holiday Party**  
Del Monte Golf Course & Monterey Hyatt Regency Hotel

JANUARY 13, 2014

**Annual Election and Meeting**  
Oakhurst Country Club

### More Details?

Visit [www.gcsanc.com/events/](http://www.gcsanc.com/events/)

## New Members

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**Nick Manfre**

Green Hills Country Club  
Assistant Superintendent

**Jay Neunsinger**

Tilden Park Golf Course  
Reclassified to Class A Superintendent



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## TransMiss

By **SEAN TULLY**

Back in 1998 in my final year at Colorado State University I was given a Trans Miss Scholarship. As with most college students I was very happy to get some extra funds. Fifteen years later I found myself able to give back to the Trans Miss by hosting their 110th Amateur Championship at Meadow Club. The Trans-Miss hosts three golf tournaments annually in an effort to promote amateur golf and fund Turf Scholarships at over 20 different turf-grass management universities across the country. The first turf scholarship for \$600 was given to a student from Colorado State University in 1953, this year they are planning on handing out over \$60,000.

During the practice round some TransMiss staff came down to the maintenance area and we had our photo taken with the trophy. It was very cool to see and hold a trophy that held so much history and such notable names as; George Von Elm, John Goodman, Frank Stranahan, Charles Coe, Jack Nicklaus, George Archer, Ben Crenshaw, Bob Tway, and Mark Brooks. The trophy was pretty heavy and was in two pieces. We almost pulled a Phil Mickelson at the Scottish Open and dropped the TransMiss trophy. Thanks to some of my crew that had some quick reflexes and grabbed the trophy in mid-air and averted leaving our own mark on that trophy!!


It was amazing tournament and the strongest field of golfers that have ever played over Meadow Club. The eventual winner was

Bryson Dechambeau from Clovis, currently going into his Sophomore year at SMU. Bryson scores were, 65-65-67-69-266 for -14 and winning by 5 strokes.

I am happy to add Bryson to the list of great amateur golfers that I have seen play at Meadow Club and hope to follow his career at SMU and beyond. Bryson recently qualified for the US Amateur at Brookline, so even more reason to be watching the Amateur, good luck Bryson!



**ren·o·vate** *vb.*  
**1: to make like new again**  
**2: put in good condition**  
**3: to restore**



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## From the Editor

By **BRIAN NETTZ, CGCS**

# Bunker Rehabilitation at the Presidio

The topic of bunkers is one of the most frequent issues a superintendent will face. I won't get into the philosophical debate of hazards and how the game of golf has been dumbed down to the lowest common denominator of golfer; where there is no such thing as a bad lie on any surface. I'll save that for the post GIS-seminar round table discussion at the nearest brew house. The days of actually knowing how to hit out of the standing water in a hazard are gone. I get it. The customer wants what they want. I'm going to give it to him even if I don't agree with it.

Case in point: the bunkers at Presidio. The bunkers several years ago (and some here currently) are like many we all enjoy; contaminated with soil, hard, failing drainage, blah, blah, blah. But rather than just re-do what we had I wanted to do something different. I wanted to give a more rustic, rugged look to the bunkers and get away from the curvilinear forms that every golfer has hit out of on every course their whole life. I approached an architect in the very beginnings of the bunker rehab planning and we guised the project in the form of a master plan scenario. Unfortunately, or fortunately, the plans received no traction. I was disappointed but I think it worked out best in the end. A tee renovation project was commenced and the bunker project shelved. I moved on but in the back of my mind I continued to search for the new Presidio look.

Move forward a couple of years, and a buddy of mine now calls himself a course designer. He forwards me some photos of a course he worked on in British Columbia. Upon looking at the photos I thought, "There was something we don't see every day!" A very rugged, natural look. It looked like a golf course was routed through the natural surroundings; not some surrounding natural features

encapsulated into a golf course. This was very close to what would work here. By now the tee project was ramping down, customer complaints about the bunkers were fever-pitch and money was now suddenly available to devote to the rehab of our biggest complaint. Additionally, we were trying to re-capture the look and feel of an old style course and our work mirrored closely the rehabilitation work done elsewhere on Presidio. We had an unexpectedly smooth historic compliance review.

Rather than blab on about the construction, the details, the process and the frustrations, I'll merely leave room for the photos and some tips for those thinking about embarking upon this voyage:

1. Use high quality drainage materials: double wall drainage pipe. Resist the temptation to buy that cheap Home Depot crap and be a budget hero. Do it once and do it right. We prefer Turf Drain of America tiling, no pea gravel and lining the trenches for a complete seal.
2. Get a moisture release curve on your bunker sand to determine depth. Can't stress this enough. Our final depth is 10". Yes, 10".
3. Fold the sod over itself (roots to roots) on the edge about a hand's length and staple. It will minimize soil entrance during grow-in.
4. You can't overdo the amount of drain tiling inside the bunker. Get as high up the slop as you possibly can.
5. Don't skimp on sand. Buy what you can afford and remember that the whiter your sand looks the more successful the project will be perceived, all other things being equal.
6. You can't overdo the amount of drain tiling inside the bunker. Get as high up the slop as you possibly can.



**Before (left and below): Bunkers are typical and nondescript—what I wanted to get away from.**





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**During (above and right): We created bunkers that followed the land's natural contours. GCSANC member Kaminski Golf handled rough shaping.**

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**After (below): The bunkers have a more rustic, rugged look.**





# Clifford & Myrtle Wagoner Scholarship Winners

## The Scholarships

*One of the primary functions of the Scholarship and Research Tournament is to fund our very successful scholarship program. This scholarship program is one of the most rewarding accomplishments of the GCSANC. Both Legacy and Turf-grass related scholarships are awarded. We awarded six scholarships to help students attain their academic and career goals in 2013. Thanks to the Scholarship Committee: Todd Gillies, Stacy Wallace, Josh Clevenger, and Gary Ingram.*



### SARAH FERRIN

Sarah, daughter of member Jim Ferrin, CGCS, is currently attending Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. She received an associate of arts degree in social and behavioral science and now is majoring in Child Development with a minor in Psychology. She has been involved in children's programs for numerous years including the development of an art camp for homeless children, volunteering at UC Davis Children's Hospital in its Child Life Development Program and working at both Foothill Preschool & Infant Center and the Bergamo Montessori School. Her goal is to have a leadership role at a psychiatric hospital in the Child Life Development Program and to help mentor volunteers and interns at the Child Life Program's volunteers and interns. An academic advisor writes, "She has tremendous professional potential and is a very competent communicator." When asked why she has this passion to work with children she says, "I feel satisfied at the end of the day in knowing that I have positively impacted a child's life as well as the future of our society."

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