

Anaheim Reflections

by Gordon Witteveen
Board of Trade C.C., Toronto, Canada

Golf Courses

The most surprising: Spanish Bay designed by Trent Jones, a new course with fescue fairways and bentgrass fairways and remarkably little poa annua, in fine condition and the kind of course one would play on a regular basis.

The most impressive: Pebble Beach with some of the most magnificent holes, views and vista's. Almost everywhere one looks there is a picture.

The most charming: Monterey Country Club, an easy walking course with many fine holes and a hospitable halfway house with a wood burning fire place where they serve hot chili.

The most spectacular: Cypress Creek, where every hole looks as if it belongs. Even to sneak over the fence and to peak at the 15th and 16th makes one's nerves titillate with awe.

The wettest: Spyglass. After a week of rain, Spyglass closed down, then opened with only 7 holes in play. California suffered from a prolonged drought and drainage, until recently was never a problem.

The most exclusive: Vintage Club in Palm Springs ranks in exclusivity with Cypress but features two eighteen hole courses, waterfalls at the entrance, waterfalls under the clubhouse and a select group of some 400 very rich members.

The best bargain: Pacific Grove Golf Club right near the tip of the peninsula with many holes playing thru the dunes and along the water. Pacific Grove with daisies growing on the fairways, may not be as well groomed as all the others but it still provides an excellent golfing experience. It only cost \$20.00 for green fees during the week and one can rent a clean, cockroach free room at a nearby motel for less than \$50.00. Golf does not need to be expensive on the peninsula. There are several other courses nearby, but, inland that charge much less than the customary \$225.00 ante that is required at Pebble Beach.

The Environment

The unofficial Green Party in the state of California has many supporters and influences government policy to a much greater degree than elsewhere in North America. Since the coast line features such spectacular scenery and also is the home of wildlife and all sorts of exotic plants, there are many restrictions on what superintendents can and cannot do. God forbid that the frogs that croak so loudly in the swamps of Spanish Bay should get sore throats because some greenkeeper sprayed the fairways with 2-4,D. In all likelihood, California superintendents will have to grow chemically free turf long before any other supers elsewhere in North America.

Golf

The California coast as well as the Palm Springs area is a golfers paradise. There are so many courses to choose from. They are so spectacular, so famous, so exclusive, that to play one of these courses is almost like dying and dreaming that one has gone to heaven. Where else can one line up a shot and try to concentrate on the anticipated trajectory of the ball while listening to seals bark. Where else can one line up a putt and have not one, but two or three deer walk across the line of play. Where else does one get to look at the homes of famous movie stars while wandering thru the roughs. Only in wacky California.

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(Anaheim Reflections continued)

Superintendents:

The Pebble Beach Management Company controls four golf courses: Pebble Beach, site of the recent US Open, Spyglass, Spanish Bay and Carmel Country Club. All four courses are managed by individual superintendents. The director of golf operations for all four courses until recently was Edward Miller, who is known as a meticulous task master with high ethical work standards. Miller has accepted a position as Superintendent with Desert Highlands in Arizona. Miller's position with the Pebble Beach Company has not been filled at this time.

Superintendents positions at these high profile courses are much in demand. Once a superintendent has spent some time at any one of these courses and done a reasonably good job, offers to move come quickly. Michael Sauls was superintendent at Spyglass for only three years when he was offered Butler National near Chicago, a move he readily accepted. There are many more examples of such moves.

From the Work Bench

Service Tip of the Month From the CGCMA

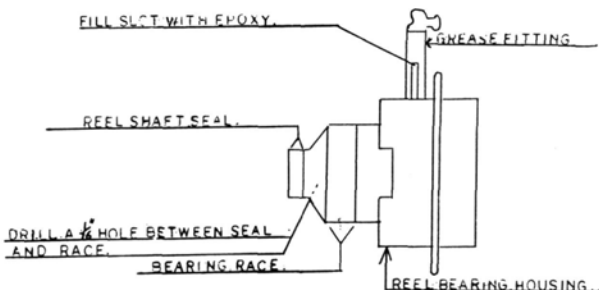
by Patrick Kelly, CGCMA President

TOPIC: Jacobsen LF100 and Greensking reel bearing housing modification for more effective greasing.

PROBLEM: Reel shaft seals run dry of grease causing grooves in shaft, and bearings run dry of lubricant due to the lack of grease flow to these areas.

SOLUTION: By plugging the grease fitting relief shot with Plumber's Epoxy Putty, and by drilling a 1/16" hole in the lower side of the reel bearing housing just after the seal area. This provides a new relief hole for the grease to pass through, while preventing grease seal blow out.

BENEFIT: Grease will now pass through the bearing and race to the seal cavity, providing lubrication to both areas, while also helping to purge old grease and moisture from the housing, resulting in a much extended parts life.



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