

## Things to do in Los Angeles

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is loaded with nightclubs, but The Rhythm Cafe in Santa Ana (15 minutes south of Anaheim) is the closest. The RC has it all: rock, R&B, jazz and country. Call ahead.

- Medieval Times in Buena Park is definitely not on the tourist hit list. Just up the street from Knotts Berry Farm, this place can best be described as dinner theater set in the 14th century. For a reasonable price, patrons are served hearty meals (try the Cornish game hen) while young maids keep the flagons brimming with ale and mead. A lack of silverware contributes to the boisterousness, which culminates in a medieval tournament complete with jousting. Not your average night on the town.
- If you're looking for seaside dining and magnificent sunsets, you'll do no better than Las Brisas in Laguna. Enjoy L.A.'s best happy hour from the huge deck and watch the sun disappear over the Pacific. Gladstone's in Malibu is similarly breathtaking, only further up the coast.
- For culture, there's the **J. Paul Getty Museum** in

  Malibu. It's free and GCSAA

  members with an appreciation
  for flora can see Van Gogh's *Irises*.
- Bernie's Beanery, on Santa Monica Boulevard across from the I-Hop in West Hollywood, is something of a landmark. Not for the faint of heart, it used to be a wild biker

bar in 1960s — now it's a somewhat reputable establishment. You never know who you'll encounter at Bernie's • Third Street Promenade

in Santa Monica has something for everyone. Patterned after Boston's Faneuil Hall and New York's South Street Seaport, Third Street features a host of shops, restaurants and bars that cater to browsers and carousers.

## GCSAA makes rare presentation of President's Award to NY Audubon

By MARK LESLIE

he President's Award for
Environmental Leadership, given
only once before by the Golf Course
Superintendents Association of America,
will be presented to the Audubon Cooperative
Sanctuary Program.

The award will be given at the GCSAA banquet Jan. 30 to Ron Dodson, on behalf of the New York State Audubon Society. The society administers the program, working with superintendents to enhance the wildlife on their golf courses.

"We will be there and accept the award. But I feel I'm accepting it on behalf of all the people who have joined and are taking care of their courses with the environment in mind," said Dodson, the NYSAS president. "Our attitude is that we are trying to provide good credible information and support. The real heroes are the people actually managing the courses for the wildlife and environment."

Dodson feels the award will give the sanctuary program credibility among superintendents and encourage more to join.

BENCH TO LEAD OFF

Johnny Bench, Hall of Fame catcher for the Cincinnati Reds, will deliver the keynote address at this year's GCSAA show in Anaheim. We're the only environmental conservation organization with a full-time golf course program.'

- Ron Dodson,

**NYSAS** president

Dodson said that, as a long-time golfer, he was not surprised at superintendents' high rate of interest in the environment. He related one groundskeeper's comment that he had always felt he was in a car without a cockpit. The sanctuary program "gave me the steering wheel as to what wildlife needs," he told Dodson.

From its inception in the spring of 1990, the program grew to just over 100 members the first year, nearly 300 by the end of 1991, and eclipsed Dodson's goal of 500 for the end of 1992.

The staff has grown from Dodson and one parttime assistant to Dodson, two full-time ecologists, a managerial person and secretarial support.

Staff ecologist Jean Mackay spends 90 to 100 percent of her time with golf courses, and naturalist Wendy Kuntz spends 50 percent of her time on the golf program, Dodson said.

"We're the only environmental conservation organization with a full-time golf course program," Dodson said.

Nancy Sadlon, environmental specialist for the U.S. Golf Association, which sponsors and funds the program, said her organization is excited about it and hopes it continues to grow. Of the more than 570 golf courses which are members, Florida and California lead the states, and the Northeast leads the regions.

The Canadian Golf Superintendents Association has shown interest in adopting the program in its country, and courses in Guam and Spain have joined. Sadlon said the USGA funded the program with a \$25,000 grant the first year and followed it the next two years with \$100,000 grants.

She hopes the Environmental Research Committee will approve a third-year funding and that the program will be self-sustaining after that year.

