

THE BERT GRAVES MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP & RESEARCH TOURNAMENT

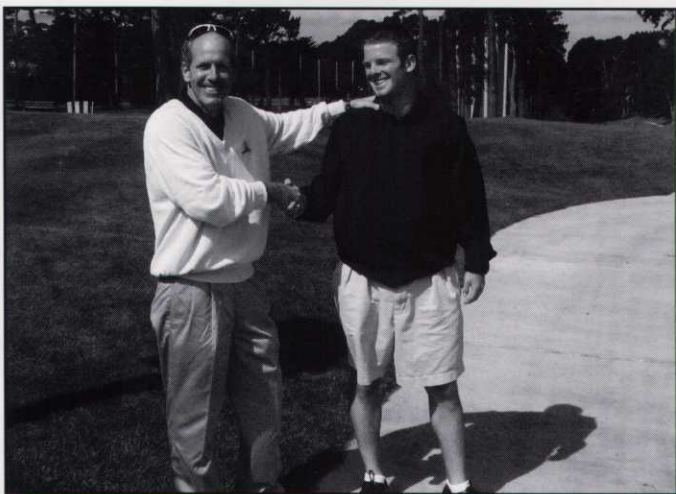
*By Jason Green, Superintendent
San Jose Country Club
Scholarship Chairman 2006*

In August 2006, the GCSANC awarded two scholarships to future golf course superintendents at The Bert Graves Memorial Scholarship and Research Tournament at Lake Merced Golf Club. Andy Magnasco received \$1,200 and Michael Alonzo received \$800. Both of these individuals made their career choices for the same reasons as most golf course superintendents, the love of golf and working outdoors.

Andy was a student at Santa Rosa Junior College and is attending Cal Poly San Luis Obispo this fall. He has been in the golf business since 2000 and was working as the 2nd Assistant for Andrew Trinkino at Fountain Grove Golf and Athletic Club this summer. His goals are to receive a Bachelors of Science degree in Turf Grass Management from Cal Poly, then work on a Masters in Turf Grass Management at the University of Florida. As you can see, Andy is driven to learn all that he can about turf grass.

Michael is a senior at California State University, Chico and is close to attaining a Bachelor of Science degree in Plant Science. He had a summer internship working for Chris Hart at Coyote Moon Golf Course in Truckee, CA. His goals are to receive his degree and become an Assistant Superintendent and eventually become a Golf Course Superintendent. Michael is driven by the daily situations that challenge him and inspiring others to appreciate the game of golf and what is involved in creating a quality golf course.

Each year the GCSANC awards a total of \$2,000 - \$2,500 to deserving students who we feel will be future leaders within our profession. If you know of any turf grass students who have plans of becoming a Golf Course Superintendent, please have them contact the office for details on how to apply. The deadline for 2007 applications will be June 15th.



Andrew Trinkino, Superintendent of Fountaingrove Golf & Athletic Club shares a moment with Andy Magnasco, Scholarship Recipient

A GLORIOUS DAY AT SONOMA GOLF CLUB

*By Brian C. Netz, CGCS
Superintendent, Presidio Golf Course*

For those who were unable to attend the Annual GCSANC Superintendent-Pro Tournament at Sonoma Golf Club, you missed a lot. You may have seen a few photos from the event in the last issue of Thru The Green, but I'd like to take a moment to give you an insider's view of the day.

First of all, we had great weather, which worked out well for the delicious barbeque lunch held on the lawn area adjacent to the new clubhouse. I'm certain with the abundance of burgers, hot dogs and other trimmings, no one left the table wanting of more food.

With the GCSANC Board of Directors commitment to provide quality educational experiences for our members, a guest speaker was slated immediately following lunch. Since the event included both golf pros and superintendents, we were able to secure a speaker whose topic focused on the importance of teamwork, with a speech appropriately titled: Teamwork for Today's Business Battlefield. Who better to speak on such an important subject than a retired general, who could draw upon pivotal experiences in Afghanistan and Iraq. U.S. Army Major General Charles Swannack, Jr. captivated the audience with his forthright presentation.

After a thrilling video presentation and a quick Q&A, the crowd was herded onto the course (which was in excellent condition) and where we were treated like royalty, as if we were club members for the day. Although the course got the best of me (and also my group), it certainly did not take away from the enjoyment and appreciation of such fine manicuring displayed by Mat Dunmyer, Superintendent of Sonoma Golf Club and his maintenance team. It was also very rewarding to see superintendents and pros (whose goals at times may seem incongruent) out enjoying the course together and partaking in the camaraderie at the post-golf reception.

Prior to the event, the GCSANC board of directors knew that many of our members wanted to show support for the men and women stationed in Iraq. An idea emerged to collect golf equipment that could be used by military personnel, thus assisting them with recreational opportunities during what little "down time" they get.

A call for golf equipment was put out to the GCSANC membership, and plenty of woods and irons were received on the day of the tournament. In fact, the response for unused clubs was overwhelming. The collection of clubs,

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A GLORIOUS DAY AT SONOMA GOLF CLUB

balls, and other items (including a flagstick that barely fit into President Gill's vehicle) were gathered...and by now, the equipment has made its way to grateful recipients.

It's the subtle things, like a used golf club drive for soldiers, which make me proud to be a part of this association. The simple willingness to help out others through charitable gestures, often creates profound results.

In closing, I'd like to thank everyone who added to the success of the day, including Host Superintendent Mat Dunmyer and his staff, Head Golf Professional John McMullin, Program Committee Liaison Todd Lyijynen, Superintendent, Diablo Country Club, Speaker Major General Charles Swannack, Jr., and Sponsor Representative Neil Woolner of Arborwell. It's a day that will be long remembered.

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