# THRU THE GREEN

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California



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Please join us on Tuesday, January 16 at Meadow Club for the 2018 GCSANC Annual Meeting

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# **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MESSAGE**

2017 was a year of many accomplishments for GCSANC. The Board of Directors completed a Strategic Plan that will serve to guide the association in the coming years; updated the bylaws to make them consistent GCSAA changes and with actual practices; awarded \$11,500 in scholarships to 11 worthy students (two turf scholarships of \$2,000 and five legacy scholarships of \$1,500); contributed \$10,000 to UC Riverside turf research via CTLF, and donated \$1,125 to the Naumann Fund; we doubled our Rounds4Research revenue to more than \$1,900; completed and published a new wage and salary survey; unveiled and continuously updated a new website design; developed a "divot repair tool" card that will be provided at all events and made available for purchase; began providing GCSANC note pads at all events; and made a presentation to NCGA in an effort to forge a stronger alliance with that association.

GCSANC also took the lead on a grant application to GCSAA, with cooperation from the other California chapters, for \$20,000 in research money that will be awarded over the next two years if the grant is approved.

The six California GCSA chapters committed \$34,600 to the research project, which will go towards a UCR study on "Improvement of Bermudagrass, Zoysiagrass, and Kikuyugrass for Winter Color Retention and Drought Tolerance."

Looking ahead to 2018, GCSANC expects to assume responsibility for managing the Assistant Superintendent Boot Camp that has been extremely capably run by Matt Muhlenbruch for many years, and we intend to focus heavily on increasing Rounds4Research funding for the chapter.

## **NORCALENDAR**

January 16, 2018
2018 GCSANC Annual
Meeting
Meadow Club
Fairfax

March 5, 2018 GCSANC/USGA Regional Conference Silverado Resort & Spa Napa

June 11, 2018
Clifford & Myrtle Wagoner
Scholarship & Research
Tournament
Lake Merced Golf Club
Daly City

August 21, 2018
Tri-Chapter Meeting
(GCSANC Host)
Cinnabar Hills Golf Club
San Jose

In response to member requests, we are now pleased to offer full-color, printed copies of Thru The Green for \$40 per issue. To order a copy, to be shipped to you via mail, submit your name, address and payment information to mconnerly@connerlyandassociates.com.

To pay by check, send payment and contact information to GCSANC, 2215 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95818.



# **Executive Director's Report**

By MARC CONNERLY, GCSANC Executive Director

The association closed out the year with two events in December: the annual Holiday Meeting in Monterey on December 8 and the Affiliates Breakfast at Metropolitan Golf Links on December 14.

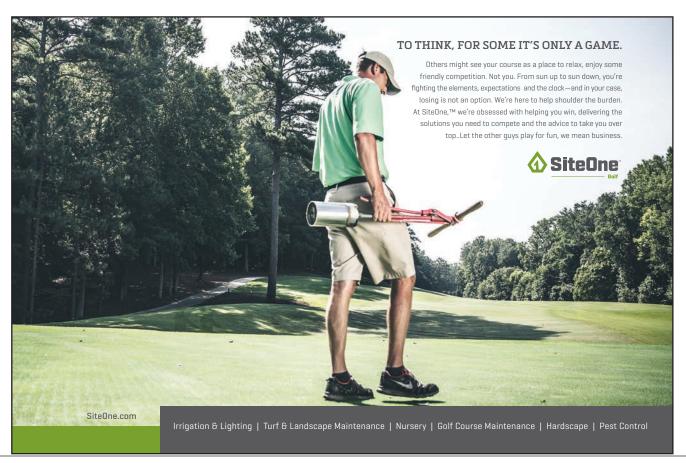
Holiday Meeting golf participants enjoyed fantastic weather! Attendees at the evening dinner party had a great time socializing, dancing, participating in the raffle, and enjoying the annual visit from Santa. The survey results indicated very favorable feedback on the venue and quality of the event, so we thank our event sponsors, emcee for the evening Brian Boyer, and Santa Claus (aka Don Naumann) for continuing the success of the Holiday Meeting.

At the dinner party, we also recognized Adrian Bertens, Terry Grasso and Mike Ligon for their efforts over the last several years to revive and grow this special get together, and I'd like to recognize them again here. Thank you to the three of you for getting this very important and enjoyable function off the ground and to the very successful level that it currently enjoys. We appreciate your efforts, and intend to continue growing what has become a much-anticipated part of the GCSANC calendar.

The Holiday Meeting was sponsored this year by DHR Construction (Dinner), Syngenta (Lunch), four raffle sponsors (Baroness, BASF, Martin's Irrigation Supply, and OGT-Green Performance), as well as Naumann Vineyards (wine sponsor) and Pacific Material Resources (babysitting sponsor).

Finally, there is no better time than now to recognize and thank the annual sponsors who generously support the GCSANC year-round. Our biggest sponsor (Diamond) is Belkorp Golf & Turf; Titanium sponsors include Frontier Golf, Simplot Partners, SiteOne, Sunbelt Rentals, TMT Enterprises, Turf Star, West Coast Turf; Gold sponsors are American Asphalt, Sierra Pacific Turf Supply, STS Turf, and Textron Golf; and Silver sponsors are BASF, Cushman, Delta Bluegrass, Farmload Distributors, Pacific Coast Seed, Syngenta, and Target Specialty Products.

Thank you to all of our sponsors and members for your support and participation in GCSANC. We wish you very safe and happy holidays, and look forward to working together in 2018!



# From the Field

By JEFF JENSEN, GCSAA Field Staff, Southwest Region

Registration is now open for the 2018 Golf Industry Show (GIS) and the GCSAA National Championships to be held Feb. 3-8 in San Antonio, TX.

The newly renovated Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center will play host to GIS, and early indications are that the floor space and number of exhibitors will continue their upward growth.

Advance registration fees for GIS (through January 12) is \$450 for GCSAA members. Seminars are \$185 for a full-day (.70 education points), \$130 for a half-day (.35 education points) and \$80 for two-hours (.20 education points). More than 430 hours of education including 97 seminars and 20 sessions are available in San Antonio. Information on all the educational offerings is available at <a href="http://www.golfindustryshow.com/">http://www.golfindustryshow.com/</a> gcsaa-education-conference/tracks.

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Some other events during the week to put on your calendar include the Opening Night Celebration, Women in Turf Reception, Health In Action 5K, GCSAA Annual Meeting and Election, and the Closing Celebration. Also, don't forget about the annual California Room event that will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 7. Registration for the California Room is available by clicking here.

To register for GIS, visit <a href="http://www.golfindustryshow.com/">http://www.golfindustryshow.com/</a> registration, and housing (including a low rate guarantee) is available at www.golfindustryshow.com/hotel-travel.

In addition to the Golf Industry Show, The GCSAA Golf Championship is scheduled for Feb. 3-5. The event features the National Championship, Golf Classic, Four-Ball and Shamble. The event returns to the host courses that were used in 2015 including Cordillera Ranch, La Cantera Resort, The Quarry and TPC San Antonio.

The National Championship (open to the first 100 superintendents with a handicap index of 5.0 and below) and the Golf Classic (flighted by handicap, using a point quota scoring system) are \$475 per player through Dec. 20 (\$575 for affiliates participating in the Golf Classic). Entry fee for the Four-Ball and Shamble are \$175 per player through Dec. 20 (\$275 for affiliates). Tournament entry includes green fees, cart, range balls, tee prize, grab-and-go breakfast, drink tickets, on course contests, awards, Welcome Reception and 19th Hole receptions following each day of play.

Registration for the championships is available at http:// www.golfindustryshow.com/gcsaa-golf-championships/ registration-information.

If I can be of any assistance to you with planning your trip to GIS, or if you have any questions concerning our showcase event, please feel free to contact me at jjensen@gcsaa.org.

Thank you for your support, and I look forward to catching up with many of you at upcoming chapter events.

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# UCR Turfgrass Research in Northern California September 2017 Summary

By DR. JIM BAIRD, University of California Riverside, Turfgrass Science

UCR maintains an active turfgrass research program in Northern California to help address climate- and region-spe UCR maintains an active turfgrass research program in Northern California to help address climate- and region-specific pest and management issues. Dr. Baird and his staff travel northward at least every two weeks (recently weekly) during the spring and fall, in addition to other trips for invited presentations. The cost of each trip averages \$750/person depending on the time of year (hotel rates) and length of stay. The following is a summary of 2017 research activities.

For detailed reports on the Gray Snow Mold Trial and the Spring Dead Spot Trial, visit https://gcsanc.com/category/research-white-papers/.

## **Gray Snow Mold Fungicide Trial**

In fall 2016, we evaluated 15 combinations of commercial and experimental products for preventative control of gray snow mold disease on a Kentucky bluegrass fairway at Martis Camp Club in Truckee. Disease activity was short-lived following snowmelt in May 2017; however, all treatments significantly reduced disease cover except for Tourney + Daconil WeatherStik. Treatments which resulted in the least disease cover included: Fame + T; Lexicon + Trinity + Daconil Ultrex + 26019 FLO; Lexicon + Trinity + Daconil Ultrex; Instrata + Ambient Plus; and Interface + Mirage. A new trial will be initiated at Martis Camp in fall 2017.

## **Spring Dead Spot Fungicide Trial**

Nineteen (19) commercial and experimental fungicides were tested alone or in combination against an untreated control for management of spring dead spot (SDS) disease caused by Ophiosphaerella spp. on a bermudagrass fairway at North Ridge Country Club in Fair Oaks (suburb of Sacramento). All treatments were applied on 29 September and 26 October 2016. Most treatments reduced SDS severity and improved turfgrass quality compared to the untreated control; however, Lexicon, A20581, and Mirage + Xzemplar produced the lowest disease severity. Based on the results from two consecutive SDS trials at North Ridge CC, Mirage, Xzemplar, and Lexicon fungicides have provided the best and most consistent control of SDS. A new trial will be initiated at North Ridge in fall 2017.

# **Evaluation of Bermudagrass Accessions in Northern California**

The overall goal of the UCR Turfgrass Breeding program is to develop bermudagrass, kikuyugrass, and zoysiagrass turf-type cultivars with improved winter color retention and drought tolerance for Mediterranean and arid climates. In 2017, we established new replicated trials in Riverside, at West Coast Turf in Thermal (Coachella Valley), and at Meadow Club in Fairfax (Northern California) to evaluate 12 of our most promising bermudagrass hybrids or accessions in comparison to Tifway, Santa Ana, TifTuf, and Bandera cultivars. The grasses are still establishing at Meadow Club. Starting in 2018, we will evaluate under fairway (0.5 inch) and rough (1.5 inch) mowing heights.

# **Evaluation of Herbicides and PGRs for Selective Poa Control**

In 2017, we started several new studies to evaluate options for selective Poa control. PoaCure (methiozolin), cumyluron, and PGRs were evaluated on a bentgrass putting green at Pleasanton Golf Center. PoaCure is also being evaluated on a bentgrass fairway at Bayonet and Blackhorse GC in Seaside and on a Kentucky bluegrass fairway at Martis Camp Club in Truckee. PoaCure Experimental Use Permit projects also continue at several golf courses in Northern California. Overall, PoaCure continues as the most effective product for selective Poa control, especially in putting greens. USEPA registration is expected in 2018-19 and CADPR registration thereafter.

# **Evaluation of Fertilizer Products and Formulations on Ryegrass/Poa Turf**

This study was conducted to evaluate granular and liquid formulations of products from Anuvia Plant Nutrients alone or in combination with industry standards for longevity and quality on a perennial ryegrass/Poa annua fairway at Pasatiempo GC in Santa Cruz. Treatments are being evaluated for color, quality, and clipping yield through the end of the year. Results are pending.

## **Evaluation of PGRs on Bentgrass Fairways**

Cutless and Trimmit PGRs are being evaluated for quality and clipping reduction on a bentgrass fairway at Bayonet and Blackhorse GC in Seaside. Results are pending.

# **Evaluation of Adjuvant Safety on Bentgrass Fairways**

We substantiated the turf safety of several adjuvants from Precision Laboratories when combined with Drive XLR8 herbicide on a bentgrass fairway at Bayonet and Blackhorse GC in Seaside.

# Control of Pacific Shoot Gall Disease in Annual Bluegrass Turf

The Pacific shoot-gall nematode, Anguina pacificae, parasitizes annual bluegrass (Poa annua) on golf putting greens along the northern California coast. They induce cavity-containing galls at the bottom of Poa shoots. Mature galls harbor eggs, juveniles, and adults of the nematode. The disease stunts the shoots, resulting in severe stand thinning and poor putting quality. Until recently, no effective remedy was available in California. Since 2014, we have been testing several new development products with nematicidal activity at golf courses severely infested with A. pacificae. The various treatment regimes were compared to the local standard of Neemix 4.5 (a.i. azadirachtin, 9 oz/1000 ft2, twice a month)

and a non-treated control. Fluopyram (0.195 or 0.39 oz/1000 ft2, once or twice/yr) improved turf appearance within 6-8 weeks, as new Poa shoot growth was almost gall-free contrary to Neemix-treated plots and the non-treated control. We hypothesize that fluopyram forms a long-lasting protective barrier on Poa stem bases as it had little effect on soil dwelling nematodes. Fluopyram is registered with the federal EPA as Indemnify® for use in turf. More recently we have discovered that abamectin (DivanemTM from Syngenta) also provides improved turf quality under Anguina nematode pressure. Research is ongoing at Spyglass Hill GC in Pebble Beach, and registration of both nematicides in California is pending.

cific pest and management issues. Dr. Baird and his staff travel northward at least every two weeks (recently weekly) during the spring and fall, in addition to other trips for invited presentations. The cost of each trip averages \$750/person depending on the time of year (hotel rates) and length of stay. The following is a summary of 2017 research activities.

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# Charles (Chuck) Weatherton, Sr.

March 24, 1935 - May 25, 2017

It was with great sadness and heavy hearts that his family announced the passing of their beloved husband, father, grandfather, and great grandfather.

Chuck was preceded in death by his father, Charles; mother, Iris; and sister, Net. He is survived by Carol, his wife of 60 years; his two sons, Charles, Jr. and Craig (Barbara); his two grandchildren, Jeffrey and Carla; his two step-grandchildren, Whitney (Josiah) and Courtney (Michael); his three great step-grandchildren, Leilani, Kaleah and Cheyanne; his brothers Bruce (Ellen) and Lyn (Kathy); and numerous nieces and nephews.

Chuck served in the United States Army, Airborne Division, during the Korean War, then started his career building and maintaining golf courses. He spent his last 30 years with the City of Oakland in Management of Parks and Recreation, was a GCSANC Class A Life member who originally joined in 1966, and was GCSANC President in 1971.

As an avid golfer, he was a long-time member of the Crow Canyon Country Club. He enjoyed driving, working on and showing his classic 1972 Chevy Stepside truck. He also enjoyed watching golf and NASCAR.

He cherished his family and his many friends and associates, and will be missed by all who knew him.

At his request, private services were held for family and friends.







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# The Importance of Agronomic Research

Auction dates: April 30 - May 6, 2018

Presented in partnership with The Toro Company.

Environmental Institute for Golf is the philanthropic organization of GCSAA.

Imagine the functionality of today's golf courses or the ability to manage them in an economically viable manner if there were no resources to fuel innovation, address challenges brought on by Mother Nature or respond to regulatory pressures. The absence of ongoing university-based research, education, advocacy programs and course operation resources threatens the ability of these small businesses to succeed and of golfers to maximize their experience. In short, the lack of this support directly impacts our quality of life.

## Research

Research in areas such as water quality and conservation, pest management and nutrient use significantly enhances the ability of golf facilities to operate more efficiently. This agronomic-focused research directly supports new and improved management programs and the development of new products. It can also have an impact in the following areas:

- Water quality protection research helps ensure regulatory compliance and environmental stewardship
- Water management research ensures healthy turfgrass and operational efficiency
- Nutrient management helps improve playing surfaces and water quality
- Pest management research contributes to improvements in the way threats to turfgrasses are controlled in the never-ending fight against pests

## **Education**

Turfgrass and golf course superintendent associations partner with university scientists and industry professionals to conduct high-quality, research-based education. Expanding knowledge is critical in developing innovative management programs that benefit both the golf course and the golfer:

## **Advocacy**

Since golf facilities are businesses that have the ability to impact the environment, it is only natural that they are subject to regulation that may impact land and water use, storm water runoff, energy consumption and the use of nutrients and pesticides. However, a regulation can have unintended negative consequences if it is not created with a comprehensive view. By taking an active approach to the regulatory process, the golf industry can actually help craft or influence policy in a manner that is beneficial to all parties involved.

## **Scholarships**

Scholarships are an investment in the future of the game. They are a commitment to the people who will directly impact the game, supporting the educational pursuits of future golf course managers.

Scholarships have been a part of the EIFG's focus since 1955, when the organization was founded as the GCSAA Scholarship and Research Fund. In the last year, the EIFG awarded more than \$170,000 in scholarships and grants.

## **Environmental Programs**

The EIFG is focused on providing golf courses with resources that enhance their social, economic and environmental value to communities. Resources for golf course managers include case studies, the GCSAA Values document, best management practices and the IPM Planning Guide.

Help us keep the future of our game green. Support the EIFG's Rounds 4 Research program.



# 2017 GCSANC Holiday Meeting









# 2017 GCSANC Holiday Meeting







# Naumann's NorCal News

By DON NAUMANN, Sierra Pacific Turf Supply

Jim Paresi has left Saratoga Country Club to become the new Superintendent at Boulder Ridge Golf Club in San Jose. He is replacing Shane Ferrill who was the super there for many years and has now left the industry......Cavin Brown has accepted the Super Position at Saratoga CC. Prior to his move he was the Super at Seascape Golf Course in Aptos. His replacement has yet to be named.....Brian Wong has left a superintendent position on the East Coast to come back home and is now the new Super at San Ramon Golf Club. Brian is following Joel Wong (No Relation). Joel is now working with DHR Construction out of the Napa Branch....Kevin Freisen

has left Summitpointe Golf Club in Milpitas. He is replaced by *Eric Reyes* who was the assistant Super at Fountaingrove GC in Santa Rosa.... *John Jorgenson* has left The Reserve at Spanos Park in Stockton and is now the Super at Monarch Bay Golf Course in San Leandro. He is replacing *Ryan Zuelsdorf* who has left there to become the Superintendent at Oakhurst Country Club in Clayton...... *Jon Christensen* left Oakhurst CC and is now the Super at Spanish Trails Country Club in Las Vegas.....





# 2017 GCSANC Holiday Meeting









# GCSANC Member Jay Neunsinger Wins ELGA For National Public Course

Boundary Oak Golf Course in Walnut Creek (Jay Neunsinger, Superintendent) was recently awarded the 2017 National Public Course Environmental Leader in Golf Award (ELGA) by the GCSAA.

In 2014, *Jay Neunsinger* and the team at Boundary Oak joined REV Sustainability Circle, a comprehensive six-month learning program. From that, Neunsinger has implemented many large- and small-scale initiatives focused on energy conservation, including a property-wide switch to LED lights, motion detector lighting throughout the clubhouse and maintenance facility, and the installation of 1,080 solar panels. The panels have already generated 351 kilowatts of power, which has covered all the electrical needs on the property.

Neunsinger's IPM program is site-specific, and the detailed plan includes management of the turfgrass, water features and the 1,700 trees on the course. Pest scouting and mapping have been in place since 2009, and overall insecticide applications have gone down 17 percent since 2010.

## Five additional ELGA winners from GCSANC include:

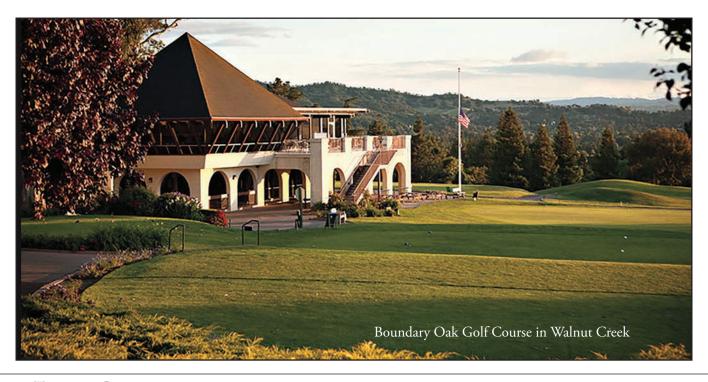
## **ELGA Chapter Winners**

- *Mark Condos*, Las Positas Golf Course, Livermore, Calif., GCSA of Northern California
- Gary Ingram, CGCS, Metropolitan Golf Links, Oakland, Calif., California GCSA

## **ELGA Merit Winners**

- Dave Davies, CGCS, TPC Stonebrae, Hayward, Calif., GCSA of Northern California
- *Troy Flanagan*, The Olympic Club, San Francisco, Calif., GCSA of Northern California
- Darin Pakkala, Crystal Springs Golf Course, Burlingame, Calif., California GCSA

Congratulations to the ELGA winners, who will be recognized Tuesday, Feb. 6, during the Opening Night Celebration of the 2018 Golf Industry Show in San Antonio. Winners will also be featured in upcoming issues of Golf Digest and GCSAA's official monthly publication, Golf Course Management magazine.



# **Institute Resources**

At our Institute in October, *Joe LeFevre*, MA, MFTT provided the following "Signs & Symptoms of Clinical Anxiety & Depression":

- Most of the day, nearly every day
- 2 weeks or more duration without improving
- Significant Sleep problems
- Difficulty concentrating and/or indecisiveness or mind going blank
- Fatigue, Feelings of and/or behaving sluggishly, and/ or Restlessness
- Irritability
- Difficult to control the worry (A)
- Diminished interest or pleasure in previously enjoyed activities (D)
- Feelings of worthlessness or excessive guilt (D)
- Recurrent thoughts of death and/or suicide (D)

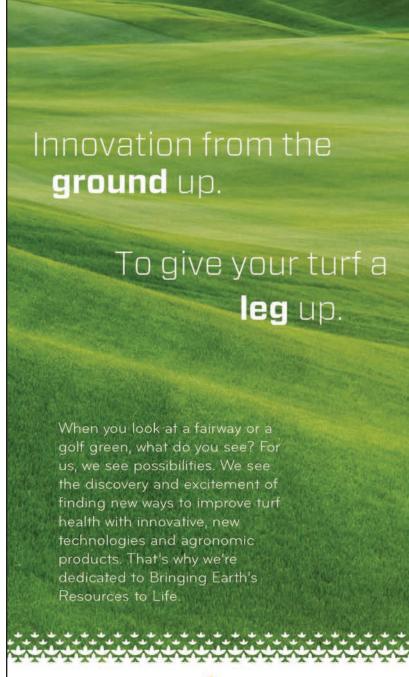
If you are concerned that you may suffer from these symptoms, or if you know of someone who may, Mr. LeFevre offered the following resources:

- CA Association of Marriage and Family Therapists www.camft.org
- CA Psychological Association www.cpapsych.org
- CA Psychiatric Association www.calpsych.org
- Joseph LeFevre, MA, MFT
   Marriage and Family Therapist
   901 Campisi Way, Suite 350
   Campbell, CA 95008
   408-389-8968

www.josephlefevre.com

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