

# SEA TO SAND

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE HI-LO DESERT & GCSASC | VOLUME 19 | ISSUE 3 | SEPTEMBER 2021

## Indian Wells Golf Resort *Indian Wells, CA*

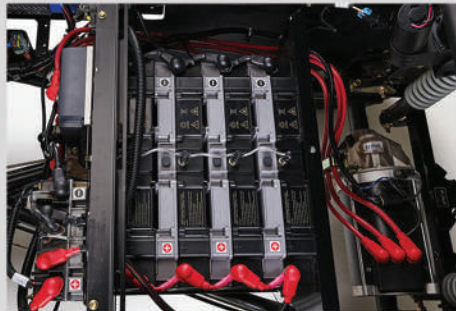
### **FEATURED IN THIS ISSUE:**

- *Hi-Lo Desert GCSA S & R Recap*
- *GCSASC Assistant Superintendent Meeting*
- *Compton Par-3*

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**COVER**  
*Indian Wells Golf Resort*



# SEA TO SAND

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# Executive Director's Report

By Marc Connerly, Executive Director, GCSASC and Hi-Lo Desert GCSA



Both GCSASC and Hi-Lo Desert GCSA held their Scholarship & Research tournaments in recent months, and both events were very successful in raising funds for turf research and for members, their families and their employees pursuing a postsecondary education.

The GCSASC S & R was held at Newport Beach Country Club, and raised more than \$28,300, including more than \$18,000 in S & R sponsorships purchased as part of the association's annual sponsorship program.

The Hi-Lo Desert GCSA Cocktail Party and S & R Tournament, held at Indian Wells Golf Resort, netted more than \$43,500, including just over \$25,000 from their auction.

GCSASC recently contributed \$25,000 to the California Turf & Landscape Foundation (CTLF) for UC Riverside turf research, in addition to awarding \$5,500 in scholarships to four worthy recipients. Hi-Lo Desert GCSA donated \$10,000 to CTLF, and is currently accepting scholarship applications, with plans to announce this year's scholarship winners at their annual Christmas Party on December 4.

On the topic of the Hi-Lo Desert Christmas Party, as indicated it will be held on the evening of Saturday, December 4, and will occur at The Tack Room Tavern in Indio.

GCSASC's 30th Annual Duff Shaw Tournament will be held on Monday, December 13, and will be preceded by a celebratory dinner on the evening of Sunday, December 12. Both the dinner and the golf tournament will be hosted at North Ranch Country Club, and the dinner will feature photographic retrospective spanning the many years of the tournament, plus a few other surprises.

The GCSASC Annual Meeting and election will take place on Tuesday, November 16, at Industry Hills Golf Club. The association is seeking to fill a few Board vacancies, so we welcome those who want to shape the future of the association to run for the open Board seats. The Board meets every other month, and Board meetings are roughly two hours in length, so there is not a significant time commitment.

On a final note, both GCSASC and Hi-Lo Desert GCSA are continuously on the hunt for venues willing to host a meeting or tournament. If you are interested in holding an event at your property, please let me know, and we will work to put something together. Also, if you have ideas for educational presentations or topics at future events, please contact me. We want to keep offering fresh, relevant content, and the input and ideas of our members is important to the success of our events.

Please always feel free to reach out to me with comments, concerns or questions at [mconnerly@connerlyandassociates.com](mailto:mconnerly@connerlyandassociates.com) or (916) 214-6495.

## Marc Connerly

# From The Field

By Jeff Jensen • GCSAA Field Staff • Southwest Region



At GCSAA, our goal is to make your membership experience more efficient allowing you to access information when and where you need it.

GCSAA recently launched its revised app “GCSAA Now” in the Apple Store as well as on Google Play. GCSAA Now gives you GCSAA news and information in the palm of your hands. Download documents, interact with fellow members, update your membership info, and more.

Some of the new features include:

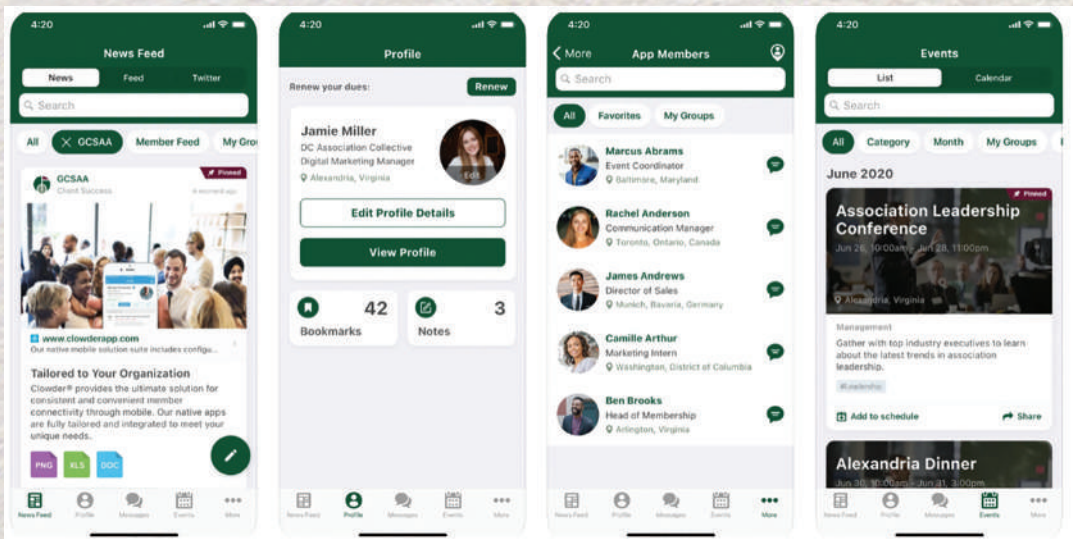
- Login once, and you are in. Simple and easy to access!
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- Interact with other members through the discussions and private messaging features.
- Find other members in your geographic proximity with the Near Me feature.
- Keep track of national and local GCSAA happenings with the Events feature. Includes an up-to-date calendar of chapter events and functions. The My Schedule feature allows you to add GCSAA related functions you want to attend to your app scheduler or phone calendar.
- Have easy access to membership documents and other information in the resources section. COVID-19 assistance, First Green, education, certification and disaster resources are all available on the app. Even submit your GCSAA points!

To make the most of your experience, if you previously used the GCSAA Mobile app, delete that before downloading the new version. Once you have downloaded the app, just use your current GCSAA login and password to access it. The apps are available free of charge.

If you need assistance with your login and password credentials, simply call our Members Services Department at 800-472-7878 and they can assist you on the spot.

I hope that you enjoy the new app and find it a useful tool for improving your membership experience. If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact me at [jjensen@gcsaa.org](mailto:jjensen@gcsaa.org) and make sure to visit my regional webpage at <https://www.gcsaa.org/resources/regional-resources/southwest> for update information from around the Southwest.

*Jeff*



**“The Ambassador program has broadened my horizons allowing me to experience an entirely different side of the industry many GCSAA members need to be more aware of. The decisions made by Congress are very important to the daily operations of golf facilities and getting involved in the process has been both eye opening and rewarding.”**

Brandon Williams  
Director of Agronomy  
St. Mark Golf Club [CA-50]



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Ambassador Justin Mandon with  
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Ambassador Jim Ferrin, CCSA at  
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Ambassador Mike Williams, GCSAA  
Southwest Region Representative Jensen  
with Rep. Pete Aguilar staffer

### Why should you become a GCSAA Grassroots Ambassador?

- Advocating improves professional development which can advance your career
- Network and learn from others who have positively impacted public policy through advocacy
- Receive the training and resources you need to communicate with club members, committee members, and policymakers

**Scan or click to sign up!**





## Hi-Lo Desert Events

Saturday, December 4  
**Hi-Lo Christmas Party**  
*Tack Room Tavern*



## GCSASC Events

Tuesday, November 16  
**GCSASC Annual Meeting**  
*Industry Hills Golf Club*

Sunday, December 12  
**Duff Shaw 30th Anniversary Dinner**  
*North Ranch Country Club*

Monday, December 13  
**Duff Shaw Classic Golf Tournament**  
*North Ranch Country Club*





## “Where’s Zena?”

Terry La Curan of TLC Materials brings his loveable companion Zena along with him when he visits golf courses. Can you guess which course Zena is visiting in this photo? (Below are three hints)

1) On November 1, 1922, the Club opened for business in the Monarch Building in Glendale.

2) Survived the 6.8 Northridge earthquake on January 17, 1994.

3) Course has hosted U.S. Open qualifier and Pac-10 Men’s Golf Championship.

*(You will find the answer on page 34)*

GCSASC and Hi-Lo Desert GCSA appreciate the support of Gold sponsor West Coast Turf.



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# FROM THE BUNKER

By Craig Kessler • Director • Governmental Affairs  
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GOLF ASSOCIATION

## THE INDUSTRY ACCOMPLISHED ITS GOALS REGARDING TWO BILLS IT TARGETED IN THE 2021 SESSION – AB 672 & AB 1346

Much attention in the 2021 legislative session went to AB 672 (Garcia; D-Bell Gardens), a bill that would have removed 22% of California's golf courses (municipal) from the protections of the Park Preservation Act, Surplus Land Act, Environmental Quality Act, and local zoning prerogatives in order to expedite their conversion to affordable housing complexes. And for good reason! That bill would have eviscerated the state's golf industry and robbed it of the sector most responsible for its growth and sustenance.

The SCGA and GCSAA did a full court press to defeat AB 672, a "press" that proved sufficiently successful to keep the bill from so much as getting docketed on the agenda of either of the two committees to which it was referred. The fact that the bill was an example of clumsy overreach helped, but the golf community response, even though almost entirely targeted to the Southern half of the state, did much to alert officeholders that a lot more persons than they thought find the golf courses in their communities to be valuable assets to those communities – assets for golfers and non-golfers alike.

Much less attention went to the other major bill the California golf community worked on this session, work equally productive, albeit much more nuanced than the all-in response triggered by AB 672. That bill: AB 1346 (Berman; D – Menlo Park) – a piece of legislation directing the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to adopt a Rule phasing out the sale of all gas-powered equipment less than 25 horsepower by 2024 or another date or set of dates deemed more feasible by CARB during its administrative rulemaking process.

Armed with the understanding that to persuade the State of California to not pursue the substitution of electric power for gas power is a fool's errand, the California golf community determined to pursue the wise person's alternative; otherwise known as the pursuit of language in the bill directing CARB to apply measures of feasibility, flexibility, and affordability in the adoption of the Rule. In other words, language ensuring that when CARB sets these dates, battery powered equipment that is fit for intended use by the golf industry is commercially available, different dates for different classes of equipment are established where commercial unavailability requires, and both agency and legislature consider the creation of ways to incent the users of such equipment to phase out their gas-powered equipment in favor of electric powered equivalents – e.g., rebates and tax credits.

[Continued to Page 12](#)

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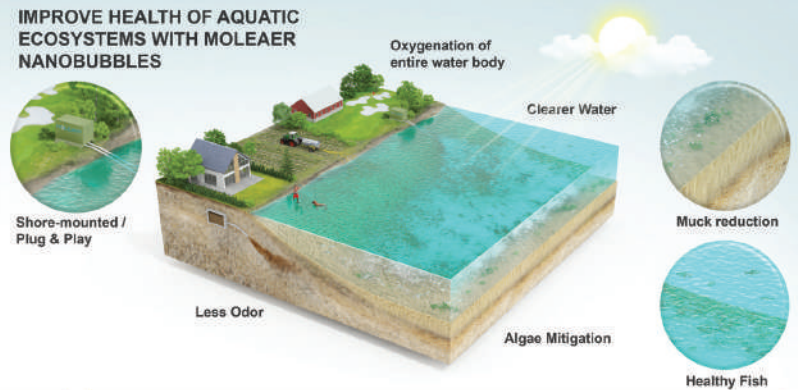
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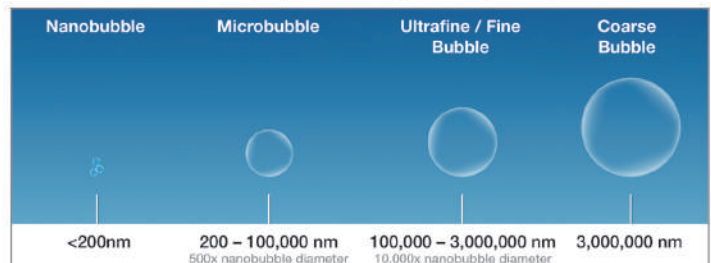
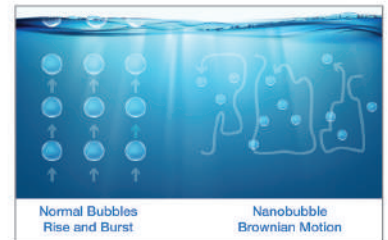
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Notes: EPA Establishment Number 94231-CA-1

## Continued from Page 10 - From The Bunker

Excerpted from AB 1346 as it passed to the Governor for his signature:

1. **By July 1, 2022, the state board shall, consistent with federal law, adopt cost-effective and technologically feasible regulations to prohibit engine exhaust and evaporative emissions from new small off-road engines, as defined by the state board. Those regulations shall apply to engines produced on or after January 1, 2024, or as soon as the state board determines is feasible, whichever is later.**
2. **In determining technological feasibility pursuant to paragraph (1), the state board shall consider all of the following:**

**(A) Emissions from small off-road engines in the state.**

**(B) Expected timelines for zero-emission small off-road equipment development.**

**(C) Increased demand for electricity from added charging requirements for more zero-emission small off-road equipment.**

**(D) Use cases of both commercial and residential lawn and garden users.**

**(E) Expected availability of zero-emission generators and emergency response equipment.**

**Consistent with the regulations adopted pursuant to this section and relevant state law, the state board shall identify, and, to the extent feasible, make available, funding for commercial rebates or similar incentive funding as part of any updates to existing, applicable funding program guidelines for districts to implement to support the transition to zero-emission small off-road equipment operations.**

The California golf industry has all the tools it needs to protect its interests when CARB crafts a Rule to phase out the sale (albeit not the use) of some of the gas-powered equipment the industry now routinely uses. And we are ready and quite able to use those “tools” to work with CARB to fashion a Rule the industry can live with. Indeed, we have already begun to assemble the theory of our particular case and the facts cum arguments in support of that case.

GCSAA’s Jeff Jensen is already coordinating with the coalition of manufacturers and landscapers that is fleshing out the details of that “case” and the “facts cum arguments” in support thereof. Precisely because this particular public policy issue involves technical issues that are the domain of the superintendents, Jeff is taking the lead role for the allied associations/organizations.

That’s how we roll in California and probably the main reason we have as many positive public policy outcomes as we do, notwithstanding the challenging political terrain we work in. SCGA may have taken the lead re AB 672 and may have been the leader with respect to the issues surrounding the protection of certain forms of golf industry independent contracting, but for AB 1346 and the Rulemaking process about to go forward at CARB, Jeff Jensen is the lead dog. The rest of us will follow and support his lead.

If there is a lesson in that, or more precisely two lessons in that, allow me to suggest that they are: 1) Cooperation and collaboration among the game’s leadership organizations make for success in the public arena, while competition and turf protection make for failure, and 2) there is wisdom for the other allied associations/organizations, including the California Alliance for Golf (CAG), in the fact that the “lead dogs” for all these campaigns are paid staffers.



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# Hi-Lo S & R Recap

30TH Annual Scholarship and Research Tournament held on Thursday, September 9th at Indian Wells Golf Resort.

The day consisted of breakfast, golf, lunch, raffle prizes, and an auction to raise money for Hi-Lo Desert GCSA's scholarship, research and benevolent funds.





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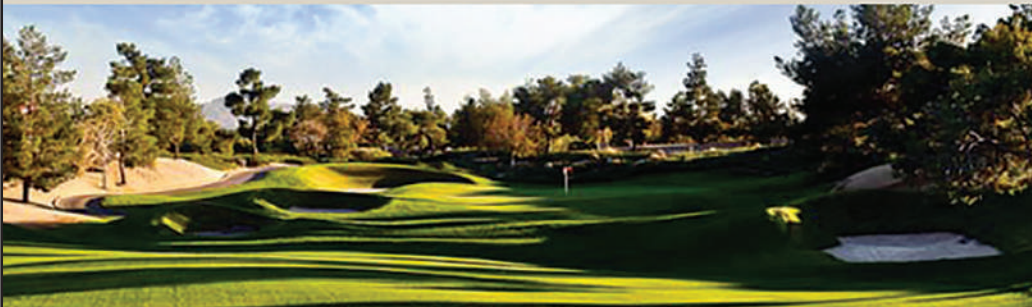


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# Assistant Superintendent Chapter Meeting

*By Ryan MacNair*

As one of the Assistant Superintendent Liaisons alongside Dan Pollack of the GCSASC, coordinating an event specifically for Assistant Superintendents was a fun and educational accomplishment. This meeting, hosted by California Country Club, included speakers Carol Rau, Jeff Jensen, and Ryan Nichols who helped educate us on ways to set ourselves apart from our competition.

Carol Rau, a dynamic Career Speaker and Author, brought high energy inspiring our Chapter's Assistants with strategies to advance their career and set them apart from others. Carol traveled from Kansas to Los Angeles to cover the "Dos and Don'ts" of interviewing, resume organization, and job search strategies. She has spoken at many GIS shows and local GCSAA events over the years, and we were fortunate enough to listen to her words of expertise directly and specifically concerning Assistant Superintendents. In comparison to her seminars I have seen before, this was even better due to the size of the audience. Her message felt directed towards you personally, was easily relatable, understood, and inspiring. Thank you Carol for making the trip!

Jeff Jensen, well known in our Chapter as the Southwest Regional Field Staff Representative of the GCSAA, spoke to our assistants about the resources GCSAA has in regards to California Best Management Practices and the Assistant Superintendent Certification Program. In addition, he brought home the importance of using affiliates and vendors in the association to help market and promote yourself to find available jobs. Some of our vendors know of openings before they are posted to our National and local websites, which can give you an advantage in the area. Another topic Jeff mentioned was how

we can service our community by getting involved with programs like First Green to mentor and teach children about the golf maintenance side of our industry. Thanks for all the advice Jeff!

Ryan Nichols with Nufarm, traveled from San Francisco to educate us about Nufarm's EXCEL program for Assistant Superintendents. EXCEL offers leading-edge development opportunities for 12 assistant superintendents chosen from many excellent applicants. Each EXCEL class assembles three times per year for a period of three years to learn leadership training in areas such as career, community, and industry stewardship. Some of the testimonials we heard from this program were very inspiring. Thank you Ryan for sharing this opportunity that some of us did not know about!

In short, the Assistant Superintendent event was a wonderful way for the Assistants in the area to meet, learn, and play golf together. Considering we could be the next generation of Superintendents in the area, it is important that the association continue to encourage the growth of the Assistant Superintendents and give them all the resources to aid in career advancement. Most assistants from our Chapter rarely have the ability to break away from their courses to have a day to hear speakers give wonderful tips and suggestions on ways to progress their careers AND play golf. I would like to thank the sponsors that supported the Assistant's Program, the speakers, as well as the Superintendents that enabled their Assistants to join us for a day that benefits them and their future. We hope to have more events in the near future and thanks to those that help make this happen.

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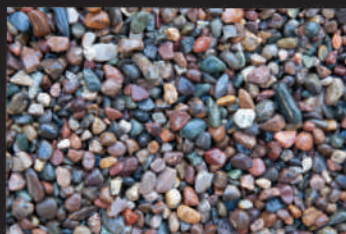


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# Compton Par-3

By Dan Pollack

The Compton par-3 golf course opened in 1958 with a simple design administered by John Hilborn. The course itself serves a great community and is one of the only golf courses in the area that still services the residents close and visitors from around Los Angeles. Over the years, the course unfortunately lacked essential tools and labor to carry out routine cultural practice needs. In late 2020, a request was presented to the GCSASC Board of Directors from the SCPGA to aid in necessary cultural practices. There were unfortunately many hold up in starting the work due to necessary permitting from the City of Compton.

On June 19th of this year, we were able to get on property to aerate and topdress the greens for the first time in many years. There were many challenges in achieving this goal, but at the end of the day, the

work was completed. This work could not have been completed without the help of various companies coming together to donate labor and parts.

The day started with two Wiedenmann Terra Spike machines conducting a 3x2inch, 5/8inch aeration performed by Turf Time West Inc. Following with a crew cleaning the cores and spreading them in various low areas surrounding the greens. P.W. Gillibrand delivered 50 tons of sand that morning, and topdressed heavily using a mix of machinery borrow from Stotz John Deere and Wilshire Country Club. Everybody on hand then proceeded to brush the sand in four directions to work it into the plant. The two regular Compton golf course workers then irrigated the greens.

It truly took a village to carry out all of the work performed that day. There were also very generous



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donations made by Harrell's and Dryject Southwest in the form of fertilizer for post completion application, and locating and bringing artificial turf matting to be installed at each teeing area.

I would like to take a moment to thank all parties involved in the work that day. Larry Lane with Turf Time West Inc., Gren Draper and equipment driver Edward Desantos with Stotz John Deere, Caroline Hallosy with P.W. Gillibrand, Will Reardon from Dryject Southwest, and Steve Mercuri with Harrell's. Gren, Edward, Will and Cole Ivey his coworker, were on property all day helping perform all of the work. SCPGA Jr. Tour Director Eddie Rodarte, who was the main contact on this project, also worked with us the entire day. The two employees designated to the golf course itself, Ricardo and Mark, were leading the five city workers the City of Compton was generous enough to give us to complete the work.

I returned to the course two weeks after aerification to check on the recovery and help Ricardo and Mark fertilize the greens.

The end vision goal of this project is to provide the local High School students with a place to spend time after school doing their homework and studying, and then have a quality golf course to develop their golf skills and promote the game of golf in the community. Many local residents as well as course employees from the past stopped by during the day to express their gratitude. There is still much work to do in the future but this process was a great start to get the ball rolling.

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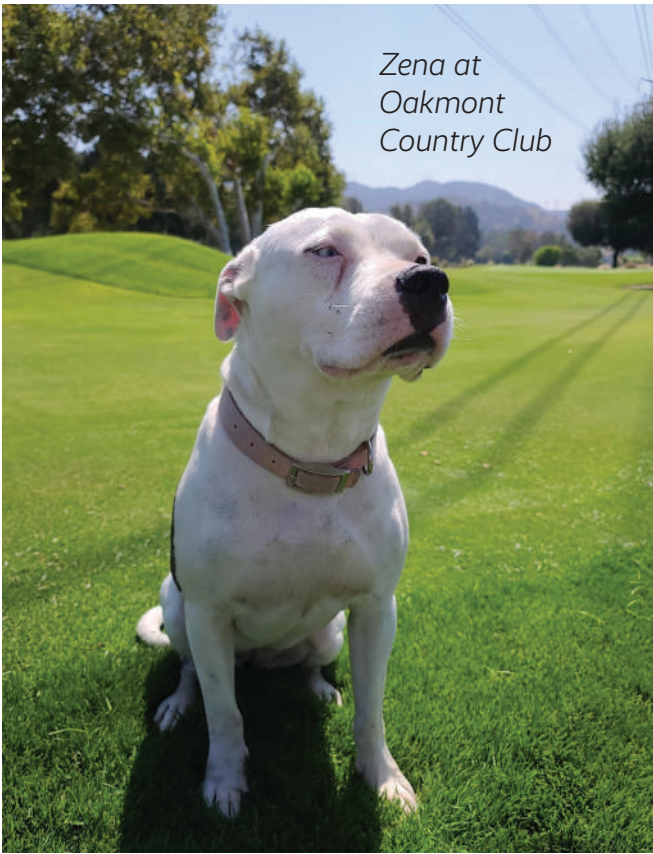
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