

JANUARY 11, 2023

SPOTLIGHT

The Master of Tragedy: Bill Aragona Survives and Thrives

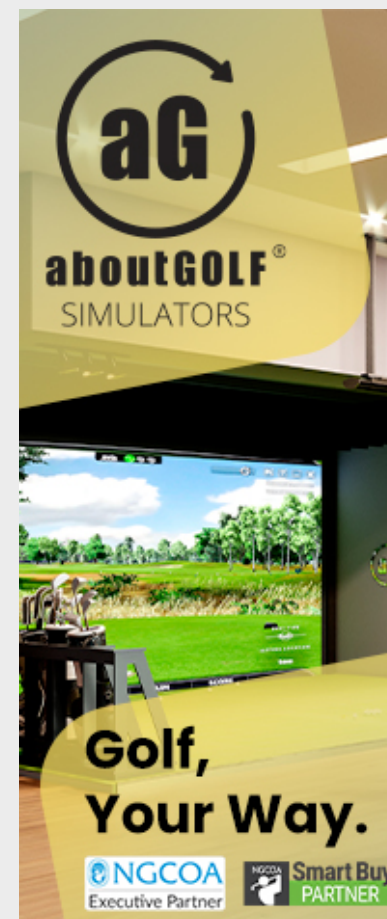
By Harvey Silverman, Contributor, Golf Business

Summertime thunderstorms are rare in Northern California and are more prone to dry lightning than delivering needed rain. In the early morning hours of August 16, 2020, a massive front threw down over 11,000 bolts of lightning, igniting fires across the tinder-dry state. One of those fires became known as the [CZU Lightning Complex fire](#), eventually torching over 86,000 acres before full containment was achieved on September 22. Nearly 1500 buildings were destroyed, including Bill Aragona's Boulder Creek Golf and Country Club's clubhouse, irrigation system, and numerous majestic trees left destroyed or scarred. It took nearly two years for Boulder Creek Golf & Country Club to reopen. And it was the second time tragedy leveled the clubhouse. Aragona was an NGCOA board member for 18 years and president from 2010-2011. He's lived and loved a life of golf, teeing it up every Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday (weather permitting) at 81 years old with his buddies at his beloved Pasatiempo Golf Club, just down the hill from his own facility... [READ MORE >>](#)



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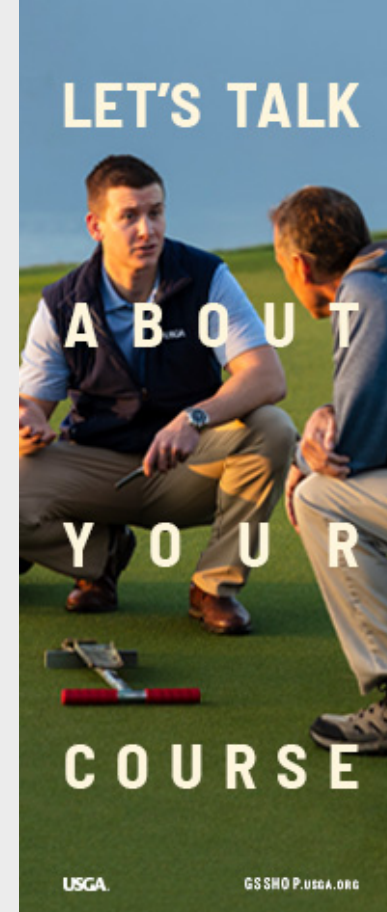
**Connecting Golfers - Affiliate Clubs
Expand Game In Southern California**



By John Steinbreder, via Global Golf Post Biz

Grow the game. Those words have been a mantra for much of golf during the past few decades, as well as a goal for people and institutions throughout the sport. The idea, of course, is to induce more individuals to tee it up, whether as rank beginners or returnees to a game they gave up long ago. And the push to do that has acquired an added sense of urgency post-COVID, as golf looks to get as many of the estimated 6.2 million newbies who flocked to the sport during the pandemic to keep playing now that mask mandates and lockdowns are mostly things of the past. The big question, of course, is: how best to make that happen? One of the more interesting and effective approaches is being taken by the Southern California Golf Association, which is the largest regional golf organization in the country. It comes in the form of an affiliate golf program that encourages people to organize clubs that do not have courses of their own but nonetheless play matches and stage events at facilities throughout the area... [READ MORE >>](#)

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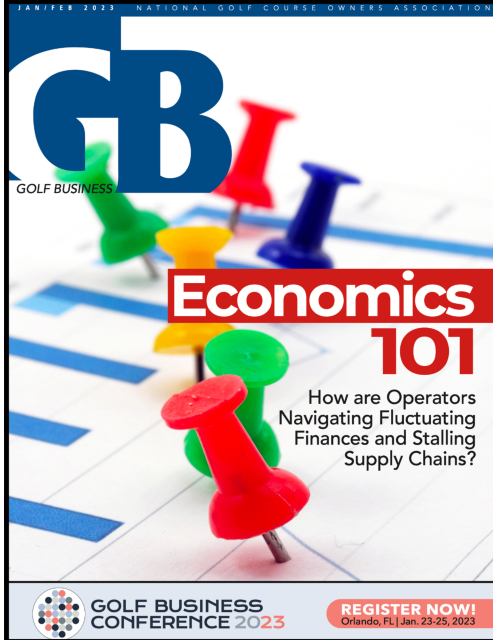
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- >> [Applied Nutrient Use on U.S. Golf Courses Continues to Decrease](#) (GCM)

GOLF BUSINESS MAGAZINE NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2022

Municipal Golf Stock on the Rise | By Jay Karen

When I was a kid, my father told me stories of sleeping in the City of Bethpage parking lot in the late 1960s with his buddies to try and get on one of the courses in the morning. At that time, municipal courses in America made



up a larger percentage of the U.S. golf course supply than they do now – by far... [READ MORE >>](#)

What an economist says Walt Disney and Andrew Carnegie can teach you about weathering a stormy economy

It was a little odd – talking to an economist about the impact of the current U.S. economy on the business of golf – and not long into the conversation he mentioned Walt Disney. This wasn't some quack – it was John Silva, an investment professional with over 30 years of experience as chief economist at Wells Fargo... [READ MORE >>](#)

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