

Kaz Maseba - Our Host Superintendent for the April meeting is well-known to all of us who attend meetings. Some of us probably felt the heavy hand of the "Sergeant-at-arms": Ole Eagle-eye Maseba, if we forgot our name badges at the meetings. And believe you me, that man has no mercy. He nabbed our esteemed President Chuck Weatherton, twice, your writer once, and even our guest speaker, Bill Davis, once. Other than that, what do we know about this fearsome character? Very little except that he plays a mean game of golf and usually comes home with at least one ball, and who knows how much "mad-money" in his pocket.

Let's delve a little further into his past, and see if we can uncover any other juicy items. Well, Kaz tells me that he was born in Fresno, which makes him a true California native. However, he was raised mostly in the San Jose area, where he went through high school. After high school he went to work for the Rose Growers Nursery from 1926 to 1942. Then he became adventurous, and toured the world for 4 years, courtesy of the United States Government. They even paid him for this pleasure. The occasion--World War II. This should give you an idea how young our friend is. He is just one of those perpetual bloomers. Anyway, when he returned after the war, Kaz went into business on his own as a landscape gardener around the San Jose area during the period of 1946 to 1950. He then moved to Stockton where he continued in the lanscape business until 1962. At that time he joined the Stockton Country Club as the Assistant Superintendent. A year and a half later he became the Superintendent, which is his present status.

Kaz is married. He and his wife Yo live in French Camp, which is just South of Stockton.

S T O C K T O N GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB This is one of the oldest courses in the area. It is about 50 years old, and started out as a 9-hole course with sand greens. Since then it has been considerably modified. The club house which is presently there, is the third one. The first one had to be moved to make room for the deep water channel. The 2nd club house became too small and antiquated, and had to make room for this last one.

The sprinkler system is ancient and consists of a Buckner quick-coupling system. Electrolyses is raising all kinds of heck with the lines and Kaz is constantly patching up the system. Right now they are contemplating a full automatic system, which Kaz hopes will be installed before too long. This certainly will help to make life a little easier for him.

Meanwhile, Kaz has been busy rebuilding the course in many ways. Over the years he and his crew rebuilt 11 greens to USGA specs, using a mixture of 50% sand, 30% loam, and 20% Loamite, seeded to Penncross. His fairways are common Bermuda and Poa annua.