

NEW POSITIONS - TOM UNRUH is now the superintendent of the Davis Golf Course, Davis. TOM SANTOS, former foreman of the San Ramon National Golf Course, San Ramon, is now the superintendent. Congrats to both of you fellows, and good luck in your new positions.

The camping-outing mentioned in the last newsletter will be postponed until next Spring. When the angels above heard that the superintendents were planning to gather socially, they were so mortified that they let loose with the tears, which has caused flooding, record rains in California, and untold misery for some grape growers, who haven't harvested all the crop. But being hardy souls, the superintendents will still try to hold this outing in the Spring. Mr. Charles F. Ankrom, Director of Golf Course Operations for the Boise Cascade Group, has cordially invited us to make use of the camping facilities of Lake Wildwood. My thanks to this fine gentleman. Let's make some noise, gang, and let me know how many of you are interested in this outing.

That is all for this time. I need articles from the members. Surely you all have something to contribute. So, let's have it. It is raining outside, and though I know that you are all dedicated superintendents, I don't believe that you are out on the course all day with rain dripping off the end of your nose. Consequently, you surely have some time while drying out to try your one-fingered typing technique on your trusty old typewriter. You may win a Pulitzer prize.

See you at Woodbridge. Lee Huang

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The following article was written by Dean R. Donaldson, Farm Advisor, Agricultural Extension, University of California, Central Coast Counties and published in "Growing Points" - October 1972.

WHY AUTUMN LEAVES ARE COLORFUL

Ever wonder why autumn leaves display such bright colors? Deciduous trees and shrubs often show bright colors just before leaf drop in the fall. A leaf is a small plant factory using sunlight to make food needed for plant growth. As the days become shorter and temperatures cool, this leaf factory gradually "closes down."

Formation of an abscission layer which separates the leaf from the twig is one of the first things to happen. The cells in this layer act as one-way doors allowing food to enter the branch for storage. As the leaf runs out of food and as temperatures drop, the leaf stops making chlorophyll.

Chlorophyll Hides Other Colors Chlorophyll, the green coloring in the leaf, hides other colors during the growing season. When the leaf

stops making food, the chlorophyll is gradually destroyed and other colors appear. Cold temperatures speed the process. These other colors are known as anthocynins (reds, scarlets, vermillions) and carotenoids (yellows, oranges, reds). In time these colorful components of leaf cells are also destroyed to reveal brown tannins which are most resistant to chemical destruction.

Not Frost Contrary to popular belief, a frost does not cause a change of leaf color. A light frost will often speed the destruction of the green chlorophyll. A heavy frost can destroy the chlorophyll and the other colorful pigments so that the leaves appear brown.

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DECEMBER 1, 1972 - CHRISTMAS PARTY - As you all know our annual Christmas Party is growing near. Again this year we are hoping that it will be as much of a success as it has been the last two years at Rancho Canada Golf Club. This year the Party will be held at the Walnut Creek Golf Course. We will be using the beautiful facilities provided by the Boundary Oak Restaurant. The agenda is as follows: Golf, both men and women - Starting times 9:00 AM to 10:43 AM. Please make up foursomes and call for starting times early to Area Code 415 934-6211, Walnut Creek Golf Course Pro Shop - Deadline date November 24th. The tournament will be Calloway scoring. Crab feed, dinner and dancing, etc. The cost of the entire package will be the same as last year. Golfers - \$16.50 - Non-golfers - \$11.50 - REMEMBER, Ladies and Guests are welcome. Please everyone plan to attend and make this the finest Christmas Party possible

Please send in the reservation card enclosed for the December 1 meeting as early as you can so that plans can be made.

THANK YOU - Larry Feliciano, Christmas Party Chairman

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WINTER DISEASES ----- By Dr. John H. Madison

It is always interesting to classify objects in different ways. Here is one way of classifying diseases that tells us some more about them.

Three common turfgrass diseases in California are obligate parasites; that is they can only live as parasitic diseases. These three are rust, smut, and mildew. Of these, only smut is systemic. A single spore of smut can cause an infection of an entire plant. Rust and mildew are localized. Each spot is a separate infection, and if you find a leaf of bluegrass with 20 rust spots on it, that means that the