

'PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - by Michael R. Clark, CGCS, Oakmont C.C., Santa Rosa

My hat is off to John Williams and the staff at Edgewood Tahoe Golf Course. We were treated with exceptional courtesey at our meeting there. I didn't hear any complaints and assume everyone enjoyed the sun soaked golf course as much as our 4-some did.

We skipped a program as there are so many things to fill your day with at Tahoe. No one seemed put out by the lack of a program so we will most likely offer the same type of meeting next year.

Meeting sites have almost been filled through next January. If you would like to host a meeting get your request in soon. Also if you have a suggestion for an educational program make it known to Dave Griffiths our Chairman.

See you at Fort Ord.

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KNOW YOUR HOST SUPERINTENDENT - by Bob Ford

Merle Russill, superintendent at Fort Ord Golf Course, has turf experience dating back to 1946 when he started at Montebello Muni. In 1950 he moved to Ashland, Oregon and built Oak Knoll Golf Course with the help of Al Williams.

In 1955 Merle took the position of Assistant Pro at Fort Ord Golf Course and later that year became the superintendent. In his 20 years at Fort Ord, with his wife and three daughters, Merle has designed and constructed all the changes he has made. He is particularly proud of his design and construction of 9 holes on the Black Horse Course. The only recent construction has been to the 18th green on the Bayonet Course to enlarge the putting surface and promote better drainage.

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A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR - Not only am I a new Board Member, I've inherited the Newsletter. This newsletter is my first so bear with me if I miss many important articles that should have been included. So that this doesn't happen regularly, I urge everyone to give some input for the betterment of the Newsletter. We still need a name for our publication, maybe a contest is in order. Let's all Contribute suggestions.

The editor is Robert "Bob" Ford, superintendent of Almaden Golf & C.C. San Jose since April 1, 1972. You may reach him at the club phone 408 268-4653 or 6349 Lillian Way, San Jose 95120 phone 408 997-2081. Before that he was superintendent of Wouth Hills Country Club, West Covina, California