

OUR HOST FOR JUNE - LEONARD WALSH, Boulder Creek G & CC

Leonard started in golf course work in 1957. He was on the construction of Riverside G & CC of Coyote. After construction, Leonard stayed on as a maintenance man. This is where he got hooked on this business. In 1959 he moved on as construction superintendent of Bay Meadows Golf Course at San Mateo. The next and last move was in 1963. Leonard took over the Boulder Creek G & CC as superintendent. Two years later he built the second nine, to make Boulder Creek and 18-hole course.

Leonard is a Class A member of GCSANC and GCSAA. He holds his Pest Control Operators License and also is a Certified Commercial Applicator.

Boulder Creek G & CC was built in 1960 as a 2100 yard, 9-hole course. The second nine was built in 1965 and measures 3500 yards for a total of 5600 yards. The irrigation on the first nine is quick couplers and automatic on the second nine. Leonard says he lost forty feet of main line that crossed the creek during this last storm and has just recently put it back together.

The front nine is tight with the fairways lined with trees. The back nine is open. The greens average 4000 sq. feet and are Poa Annua and Seaside Bent.

Leonard operates with six men and himself. The past couple of years, water has been at a premium at Boulder Creek.

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JOB SECURITY by President Robert E. Livesey, CGCS

Last month the statement was made that there is no job security in our profession. The first thing that one will say is I have, or I will have a contract with my club. This is good up to a point. But there has not been a contract made, as far as a superintendent is concerned, that is not open ended. What are we talking about? A clause that leaves the way open for the club to terminate your employment with a given amount of notice. Or the superintendent is required to do the same if he should decide to leave. The contract only stipulates what the club expects from you, what your salary will be, and what expenses will be covered. No club will get into a position with any one without having some control of the situation. Where does this leave you? All you have is a piece of paper that tells what is expected of each party who has signed it.

How can you improve your job security? You must maintain good rapport with your board and membership. Also, you must educate yourself as you go along. You will find that the same things which apply to middle management in industry also apply to the golf course superintendent. Whether your educational process is formal or informal, the

top people must be made aware that you are taking steps to better yourself and, therefore, the club.

Many say that they're too old or don't have enough time to go back to school. BALONEY! Look at the tens-of thousands of adults who are attending our junior colleges and 4 year colleges and universities. Also, there are many schools that offer excellent correspondence courses in turf management, business, management, etc. There are education seminars put on by our national association and turfgrass councils. Further, manufacturers and vendors alike sponsor such activities, both on a local and national scale.

Another way of continuing your education is by exchange of ideas, That is, sitting down with other superintendents and talking. In our Northern California area such opportunities do exist. I list three of them here.

First, we have our monthly chapter meetings. To some the program may not be of much interest. But to be able to talk to, and exchange ideas, with fellow superintendents is of great importance. This was brought out by "Doc" Babson at our annual meeting. Some members ask, "Why can't we have this or that type of program?" Have you ever thought of putting this question to your program chairman? We have two people on the board whose prime job is developing a program. Get your ideas to them. Remember, they are not mind readers.

Second, we have the annual TARP meeting. Why are there more golf professionals attending than superintendents? This is where you can get some of the exposure to your club officials you need. You can't just sit back and let things like this go by.

Finally, there is the Superintendents Institute. This program is supported by GCSANC, NCGA, and UC Davis. Attendance by Northern California superintendents has been poor. When members from other chapters are attending and have nothing but good things to say about the program, then you are missing something. Plans are in the making to start another 5 year program in 1979. Start making your plans now. Remember, you have to stay ahead of the game to have any amount of JOB SECURITY.

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THRU THE GREEN EDITOR

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DEADLINE DATE FIFTEENTH OF EACH MONTH