

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Robert E. Livesey, CGCS

Our annual trek to the Sierra is over and every one returned, I think? From the comments that were made every one had a wonderful time. Some more so than others! Our Host Bob Townsend and the Sierra Nevada Chapter made everyone feel at home.

At the board meeting on the 5th of October a couple of questions come up that should be answered by the membership. One pertains to reservation cards. This has been cussed and discussed for quite some time. It is now getting to be a problem. Cards are being sent in and people do not show and there are some who don't bother to send them but still come to the meeting. This puts a burden on the host superintendent. He has to work with his golf professional on the members who are playing golf and with the club manager or chef who is taking care of the food preparation. There are several superintendents that will not host a meeting because of this lack of consideration. If you send a card that you will attend, but then find out that you can not, call the host superintendent and let him know. If you don't send in a card but find out that you are able to attend, at least call the host the day before, and let him know. This is just common courtesy.

The other question. Are our annual dues just a green fee, to enable a member to bring his friends to play golf? This is being done. I do not feel this is fair to the membership as a whole. We hope that the monthly meetings are mainly to bring information, exchange ideas, and create fellowship among the people who are involved in the turf grass industry.

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RESULTS AT CLAREMONT MEETING by Stan

Being that the format for the meeting was new I think that some people were inclined not to say anything, unless it was a compliment. Well, I would like to thank everybody for being so nice to me but Claremont Country Club is not in perfect condition and I know that as much as anyone. I also don't know of any course that is in perfect condition. There is always room for improvement. Let's all remember that. I think that we must continue this type of meeting but we will have to get a little more critical. Let's all face the fact that in order to be a Golf Course Superintendent we have to be a little thick-skinned to start with.

After the meeting I had the opportunity to discuss the outcome with our golf professional Tal Smith and Green Committee Chairman Jim Dinwiddie. They were impressed with our knowledge, attitude and general impression that we left. But as Tal stated in his article we have room for improvement. He also understands that this was our first meeting of this type. We must get into all areas of golf course maintenance. We are no longer just grass farmers. We must look at our course from the players point of view.

When we do that we will all be better superintendents. As Tal suggests we might be able to get into other aspects of course maintenance when we have another meeting of this kind.

I received back six hand outs with notations on them and there was some good criticisms. Please let me quote Ken Stohl "\*!\*?? traps" Thanks Ken I needed that. All joking aside the trap sand, the wet greens and tees and fluffy fairways were the only criticism I received (thank goodness) I think I explained the choice of sand well enough at the meeting and as far as the wet greens and tees, well 'I stepped in it'. I failed to check the master controller the night before and they were watered inadvertently (by the way I have a very modern AUTOMATIC watering system) As far as the thatch on the fairways I must agree with the criticism and to correct the situation I am going to lower the height of cut.

I must admit I was quite uptight about hosting the meeting and again would like to thank you for being so kind.

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USED EQUIPMENT FOR SALE - I am a Jacobsen Turf King 76" triplex mower. I have an electric starting system (your crew will like that). My blades are good, I have two fuel tanks so I can work all day (your crew won't like that.) I do need new belts. I hope your mechanic has warm hands. I am six years old and I am in good shape for my age. I know my way around a golf course, I am a good worker, and need a good home.

I have some other friends that are looking for a good home. One 1969 Greensaire, that was rebuilt in 1975, he is in fair shape, but can still do a days work, and he is looking for a course with soft greens. My other two friends are a Ryan mattaway good shape, and self-propelled Ryan Rollaire, your crew will like him.

A member of the men's club has a 22" Jacobsen greens mower for sale at \$150.00

We can all be seen at the Walnut Creek Maintenance Center, 3560 Valley Vista Road, Walnut Creek, California or call our ex-friend Ed Watson. He makes us stay out side now. The number is 415 935-3332. The best time to call is when he is eating his lunch or noon which ever comes first.

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1979 DUES are now payable. Those who have paid their membership cards are being processed. Please return to 1233 Kansas Avenue if any corrections need to be made. Also 1979 plates for plaques will be sent with the membership card.