OUR HOST AND HIS GOLF COURSE
Denny Plato was born and raised in Alameda California. He began his golf career picking up balls at Airway Fairways Driving Range under the direction of Lucious Bateman. After a short time, Denny started taking care of the putting green. At the age of 17, he went to work at Blackberry Farms GC in San Jose. Within two years, he was promoted to superintendent and worked in this capacity until he entered the Marine Corps. After completing his service obligation, he returned to Blackberry Farms. In September 1966, he moved back to Alameda to take a night irrigation position. In March of 1968, he became foreman under the direction of Earl Vargas and Chris Garcia.

Denny was promoted to superintendent and worked in this capacity until he entered the Marine Corps. His hobbies are golf, hunting, and fishing. The original Alameda Golf Course was built in 1955, an addition was constructed and followed in 1962 with a Par 3-9 hole course. Now the complex consists of 300 acres, 45 holes of golf, lighted driving range, restaurant, lounge, and pro shop.

The Earl Fry Course plays over 100,000 rounds per year, the Jack Clark Course over 80,000 and the Mif Albright Par-3, approximately 50,000 per year. Jack Theilade is the head professional and Fred Framsted is the General Manager of golf operations.

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE
DROUGHT....A key word we have been hearing a lot of this year, and one which we will become more familiar with as the growing season progresses. As turf professionals, we are going to be in the limelight regarding water conservation measures since our large expanses of land require major quantities of water in order to maintain the “green effect” that golfers are accustomed to seeing and playing on.

Since the water problem is of grave concern at this time, we have changed our original program scheduled for this month’s meeting at the Alameda Golf Complex. Originally, Carey Krefft was scheduled to speak on new sprayer technology. However, due to the urgency of the drought situation, Bob Dauterman, our program coordinator, in conjunction with Cliff Wagoner, and Ali Harivandi, have put together a timely program concerning the effects of reduced irrigation on turfgrasses and landscape plants. They will touch on subjects ranging from what the short and long term effects will be, to some helpful hints on how you can modify your irrigation system. To any Golf Course Superintendent who has gone through a drought, or has experienced mandatory rationing, we can use your experiences and information to share with other superintendents. Please call Bob or Cliff. Your input will be more than helpful regarding what to expect in the months to come. This will be a very interesting program, and I urge everyone to attend.