Once again, Frank Barberio, our host Superintendent at Mira Vista Golf and Country Club did a magnificent job. The course was in excellent condition for our tournament. It was very evident why Frank received the Turf Excellence Award in 1987. It is not always easy to maintain those high standards but, he has managed to do it. Again, our thanks to Frank and all the staff at Mira Vista who contributed, to making us feel welcome.

On a serious note all of us involved in the Turf Industry should be aware of Proposition 128, also known as “Big Green”. The main thrust of the proposition would require the phasing out of any pesticides containing chemicals that cause cancer and chemicals that destroy the ozone layer. Some of the other provisions would be to establish oil spill clean up and prevention plans, limit off shore drilling and ban clearcutting of old growth forests.

These all sound like lofty ideals on the surface, but there are many areas which have not been addressed. One of these is the effect on the agriculture, horticulture and turf industry. It would cost enormous amounts of money to comply with the propose deregulation, plus what would replace the materials phased out.

The estimated cost to create a bureaucracy to oversee and regulate the proposition, if it passes is $40 million a year.

I strongly feel that it is up to us as golf course superintendents and citizens associated with the turf industry to let our feelings be known. Talk to people, inform them, but most important of all, VOTE. Proposition 128 is not in the best interests of anyone, except for the select few who will benefit from its passage.

Joseph A. Rodriguez, CGCS

Ron Forsythe has accepted the Supt. position at Napa Valley CC in Napa. Ron was the assistant there prior to his promotion. He is replacing Ed Thiele...Terry Grasso is the new Supt. at Burlingame CC in Hillsborough. Terry was an assistant at the Olympic Club before his move...Ed Miller is the new Director of Golf Maintenance Operations for the Pebble Beach Company overseeing Pebble Beach, Spyglass Hill, Spanish Bay, Peter Hay and Del Monte Golf Courses. Ed was the Supt at Desert Forest CC in Carefree, Arizona before accepting the position at Pebble Beach...Our host for Supt. for November, Randy Gai at Claremont CC in Oakland has been preparing the Golf Course for our arrival. In addition to rebuilding all bunkers, he is now just finishing rebuilding the 215 yard, par 3 number 2 hole tee. Notice all the rock work, if approved by the members, many of the tees will be raked the same way.