

THRU THE GREEN

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

OCTOBER 1993

THE MEETING PLACE

Our October meeting was at **Canyon Lakes Country Club** in San Ramon. The day was hosted by Superintendent **Bob Cox, CGCS**. Being the shy, retiring type that he is, Bob doesn't brag about his background. Many of you probably don't know that he is a former All-American at Notre Dame, a black belt in Karate, and a decorated water pilot.

He is currently in therapy to overcome his addiction to compulsive lying.

Actually, Bob is a former golf professional who "jumped to the other side" full time in 1980 at the

Vallejo Golf Club. He migrated to Tilden Park in 1983 and was the "grow in" superintendent at Delta View in 1989-90. He has been certified since 1986 and currently serves the association as a director.

Bob's current assignment is Canyon Lakes Country Club, a privately owned, daily-fee course which opened for play in 1987. The 18-hole course was designed by Ted Robinson and built under the supervision of J.D. Chastain, a former member of our society who passed away in 1991, God bless him.

The complex is owned by Kosaido, Inc., which owns

and operates 15 clubs throughout the world. Two are in the U.S., the other being Hillsdale CC in Chicago.

Canyon Lakes is maintained by a crew of 12, many of whom were here during the construction. Even though it was put in as a

state-of-the-art layout, constant changes still occur. Twenty-two bunkers, the enlargement of two greens, the redesign of a fairway, and many hundreds of trees have been added in the last two years. Keith Kaminsky, an affiliate member, was brought in on several of these

Continued on page 4

Have You Made Your Reservation?

1993 Golf Course Superintendents' **INSTITUTE**
November 3, 4 and 5

DOWN THE DRAIN

by Randy Gai

Our September GCSANC meeting, held in Windsor, literally "dropped jaws" and "opened eyes." The meeting featured an open forum discussion on waste and environmental liabilities conducted by Jerry Brown, VP of Finney & Brown Insurance Brokers; Mike Maddock, California Steam, Inc.; and Carey Krefft, NSTC Farmtec. We were clearly shown how our industry is wide open to face severe penalties imposed by the state or local water quality control board, the federal E.P.A., the county Hazardous Materials Division, or the Department of Fish and Game, simply because of the way we wash our maintenance equipment. The water running down our drains when we use high pressure washers, degreasers and the like can contain fertilizer residue, pesticide residues, oil, grease, hydraulic fluid and fuel residues, soaps, detergents, and solvents, as well as trace metals. Lead residues can be released by the washing of electric golf carts. The problem is not in the washing of the equipment, but where the water goes.

It is a direct violation of the law if you have waste water going onto gravel, into the ground or a storm drain, or into a nearby creek or stream or have knowledge of this activity taking place and do

Continued on page 3

IN THIS ISSUE

California Clips & Cuts	P6
FYI	P2
Magic Beans	P3
The Meeting Place	P1
National Notes	P6
Naumann's Norcal News	P4
No Putting on the Greens	P5
NorCalendar	P8
President's Message	P2
Welcome to the Green	P4

OCTOBER MEETING

Continued from page 1
projects.

Although the course is six years old, last winter was it's first under "normal winter conditions." It stood the test quite well, thanks in part to excellent drainage installed during construction. No days were lost for play.

Canyon Lakes was designed with a Muirfield concept. Each nine consists of a loop whereby the first nine goes out in a clockwise circle and the incoming nine is in a counter-clockwise configuration. This allows the competition to encounter the wind from all four directions as they make their journey around. There are some great vistas to experience as well as several challenging tests of the golfer's skills.

Canyon Lakes has no men's, ladies', or seniors' groups that use the facility as a home base. Green fees are structured at \$50 on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, and \$60 on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Long-time professional, Russ Dicks, is the General Manager.

The program for the October 4th meeting is being presented by Northern California Golf Association. We have two speakers scheduled for the meeting. Hunter Gridley, Project Manager, will discuss the NCGA Poppyridge Project in Livermore, and John Sirman, Director and NCGA Chairman, will tell us about their internship program.



Handling Controversy

When controversies arise:

- **Meet with** the people involved to gather facts and hear how they feel. Ask open-ended questions.
- **Focus on** the facts you've uncovered, not on personalities. Avoid taking sides or giving the impression of taking sides.
- **Devise a number of possible solutions.** Why: Proposing new solutions helps those involved to avoid adopting a win/lose mentality.
- **Clarify and summarize** all the conflicting positions before ending a meeting. When emotions are high, people don't always hear everything that's been said.

WELCOME TO THE GREEN

Current Membership: 517

Welcome to the following new GCSANC members:

Joel Ahern

San Jose Country Club
Associate

Tim Ahrens

Prescription
Turf & Ornamental
Affiliate

Wally Mara

Christy Concrete Products
Affiliate

Mark Spire

The Country Club of Paducah
Class B

Applications have been approved for membership for the listed classification pending the 30-day waiting period, verification of status, or passage of any required tests.

Classification upgrades:

Keith Justesen

Brighton Crest Country Club
Associate to Class B

Gary Skolnik

Incline Village Golf Resort
Class B to Class A



NAUMANN'S NORCAL NEWS

Leonard Walsh has retired as head superintendent at **Boulder Creek G & CC**. Leonard has been the superintendent there since its inception. Replacing him is **Bob Lopic**, the assistant superintendent. Bob had been working in that position for the last five years...Joining Leonard on the Social Security payroll is **John Lloyd**, superintendent at **Marina Golf Course** in San Leandro. John was the superintendent there for the last 12 years. Assistant **Ken Schwark** will be the acting superintendent until a decision on John's replacement is made...**Ross Miller** has assumed the superintendent position at **Valley Gardens Golf Course** in Scotts Valley. Ross has been in the horticultural industry for over 20 years and had most recently been working with **Brian Bagley** at **The Villages CC**...**Wayne Lindelof** has recently completed the installation of a new irrigation system (Rainbird; Foremost Irrigation was the contractor), rebuilt new greens, tees and driving range. During the whole oper-

ation, **Lone Tree Golf Course** in Antioch remained open...**Gary Skolnik** has recently been promoted to the position of Director of Golf Course Maintenance Operations at **Incline Village Golf Courses**. Gary now has two superintendents under him, **Mike McLaren** at the Championship Course and **Shaun Riley** at the Executive Course...**Ty Abraham** has recently been named superintendent at **Mountain Springs Golf Course** in Sonora. Ty was the assistant at La Contenta Golf Course prior to his move. Northern California is the home of four tour events in the next month. **Windsor Golf Course (Supt: Rich Hansen)** will host the Nike Sonoma Open (formerly Hogan Tour event); **Silverado CC (Supt: Brian Morris)** will host the Transamerica Open (Senior Tour); **Rancho Murieta CC (Supt: Rich Scholes)** will host the Senior gold Rush; and **The Olympic Club (Supt: John Fleming)** will host the Tour Championship.