

THRU THE GREEN

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Thru the Green

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Association of
Northern California.

Casting Our Vote

Members of GCSAA have several ways to voice their opinions on what happens within our association on a national level. You can vote individually, by local chapter, by state or regional chapter, by proxy or absentee. As a group, GCSANC decided some time ago that our chapter would vote locally. It has come to our attention that many of our local members have not yet signed over their GCSAA vote to our

local chapter. Letters will be sent to those members along with a voting affidavit that will facilitate this process. Please return this affidavit to GCSAA as soon as possible.

Board Establishes Writing Award

Have you recently completed a unique project on your golf course? Have you seen something interesting at a course that you played? Have you built or modified a piece of equipment that you feel might

benefit others?

Do you have any thoughts or ideas that would be of interest to your fellow superintendents? Are you caught in a bureaucratic catch-22 that you're trying to figure out? If you answered YES to any of these questions, we want to hear from you. YOUR newsletter needs YOUR input to be successful. Write an article, tell a story, report a problem, or just get something off your chest. We want you to write an article

Continued on next page

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

One of the benefits of being chapter president is meeting with both old timers, like Bob Costa, and new members at the monthly meetings. I've heard that there are a lot of new members who would like to become more involved, but feel they are not well known enough. The best way to introduce yourself to your colleagues is to host a monthly meeting at your course. Another way to become involved is to volunteer to help on a committee.

To get involved on a committee, contact the committee chairman listed to the right.

Finally, you can contribute your knowledge, opinions and interesting ideas to the newsletter. What better vehicle to express your viewpoint than through a publication that your peers will certainly be reading.

We continue to ask for everyone's contributions to our new newsletter. It can only

Membership

Bob Cox/Leon Snetten

Programs/Institute

Randy Gai/Bill Kissick

Tournaments

Mike Basile/Leon Snetten

Education & Scholarship

Joe Rodriguez

Bylaws

Rod Kilcoyne

Research

Rod Kilcoyne

Publications

Brian Bagley

State Liaison

Brian Bagley/Randy Gai

GCSAA Liaison

Rod Kilcoyne

Commercial Advisor

Chuck DalPozzo/
Dave Wilber

become a great publication with increased participation from our members. Obviously, the primary way to contribute is by writing articles, but there are other ways to help. If you have an idea for a good article or a topic you would like to see addressed, just call or send it to anyone on the board or directly to the publisher, DJ King. Let someone on the board know what it is about the newsletter, specifically, that you like or don't like. If you like something, *great!* If you don't like something, give us a suggestion on how we can improve it or change it.

Respectfully submitted by
Brian Bagley
President

*"Things are more like they
now than they have ever been."*

- Former president
Gerald Ford

WRITING AWARD

Continued from page 2
for *Thru The Green*. The Board of Directors decided that you might need some incentive to write this article, so we have established an annual award, along with a substantial cash prize, for the best article written, submitted and published in the newsletter each year.

The deadline for each issue is the 14th of the preceding month. Simply fax or mail your article to our office or the publisher's office prior to that date. The addresses are listed on the inside of the front cover. Then, sit back and wait for your prize to come!

**1995 GCSAA
Tournament to be
Held in Bay Area**

Poppy Hills and Laguna Seca have confirmed as two of the golf courses on which the '95 GCSAA tournament will be held. Olympic Club, San Francisco CC, Half Moon Bay and Crystal Springs are also under consideration. CGCSA has informed national that we prefer the tournament stay in the San Francisco Bay area. Confirmation of all five courses is expected by the end of the month.

**Western Farm
Offers Scholarship
Money**

Rhone-Poulenc and Western Farm Service are soliciting your assistance in gathering information concerning pesticide usage in the state. In exchange for 75% of our

class A and B members filling out a brief survey, Western Farm Service has promised a donation of \$2,000 to the GCSANC Scholarship Fund. Additionally, each member who returns a survey will have the opportunity to have their registration to the Institute paid for them. Once compiled, the information will be made available to GCSANC for publication in the newsletter. The Board of Directors requests that every class A and B member participate in this program.

Note: GCSANC's participation in this program in no way endorses any particular product or company.

**Institute Plans
Complete**

Plans for the 4th Annual Superintendent's Educational Institute have been finalized. This year's Institute will be held at the Doubletree Hotel in Santa Rosa. The golf tournament following the Institute is at Fountaingrove Resort and Country Club. Speakers will be **Ali Harivandi, Don Waddington and Fred Bliss. Joe Davis** will lead the first afternoon's seminar and CDFA hours will be offered. About 100 are expected to attend. Watch your mail for more information.

*You're Kidding, Right?
A course developer in Lake Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, reports Golf Digest, has plans for a floating green to be built on a steel barge in the middle of a lake. The hole will change depending on where the barge is towed to on a given day. Golfers will be ferried to the green by boat.*

**Tips from the USGA
Summer Salt Accumulations**

*by Pat Gross,
USGA Green Section*

It has been a relatively mild summer so far, however, in our travels, we have noticed that many courses are still fighting stress-related problems on greens due to excessive salt accumulation. This is not surprising, since the potable and effluent water in the western US tends to be relatively high in salt. Salts reduce the ability of the plant to use water and can produce drought stress symptoms and necrosis.

Excess salt accumulation also seems to be one of the major contributing factors to the development of such diseases as anthracnose (*Colletotrichum graminicola*) and summer patch (*Magnaporthe poae*). The stress induced by salt accumulation predisposes the plant to infection by these diseases.

Since there is no economical way to remove salts from the water source, the best approach is to implement management strategies to reduce the negative effects of this common constituent of our irrigation water.

Improve drainage.

Salt accumulation is more severe on poorly drained greens. Core aeration or solid tine aeration during the summer using 1/4" to 3/8" tines will

provide avenues in the soil for the flushing of salts. This may be necessary as often as once per month during the summer.

Monitor salt levels regularly.

You may wish to monitor a few "indicator" greens on your golf course on a weekly basis through the use of a portable electroconductivity meter (E.C. meter). These readings may not correlate directly with semiannual soil test reports, but they can give you an indication of when it is necessary to leach greens. A reading of 1.0 mmhos./cm for bent/poa greens is a good point to begin leaching operations.

Leaching.

Leaching is the application of water over and above normal irrigation requirements to move salts out of the root zone. This is best accomplished immediately following aeration by scheduling repeat irrigation cycles for a period of 4 to 6 hours. If your irrigation system does not have this capability, setting a low precipitation rate sprinkler on the green throughout the night can accomplish the same results. Just giving the greens an extra 20 minute cycle is not effective to leach salts out of the root zone.

Continued on page 7