

THRU THE GREEN

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

JANUARY 1994

THE MEETING PLACE

January Meeting Salinas Golf and CC Host Superintendent: Bill Kissick, CGCS

The Course. Set in open pasture land in the hills north of Salinas, Salinas Golf and Country Club is a private members course of just over 5,000 yards and 300 members. It was originally completed as a nine-hole course in the 1940s. Some time in the late fifties the other nine was added.

The course rewards well-placed shots to pars and birdies, but if your tee shot finds the wrong place the score can soar. The course

went through some renovations in 1992 with a new driving range, a lake, nine new greens, and a new maxi 5 irrigation system.

The Superintendent.

Superintendent Bill Kissick, CGCS, came to the golf maintenance industry in a round about manner. He started out in the horticulture program at Cal Poly Pomona to become a nurseryman. He went into landscape construction while at school and formed a company after finishing the program that continued for the next four and a half years in the L.A. area.

A career change put Bill in the Palm Springs area for

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Larry Lloyd Memorial Golf Tournament Scoreboard

Superintendent Low Net

Jeff Gorham - 62
Larry Lloyd Mem. Trophy
Gary Carls 68
Jim Banthrup 69
Patrick Burgess 71

Superintendent Low Gross

David Hayes 77
Ed Stocke 80
Mike Garvale 81
Mike Phillips 82

Affiliate Low Net

Ibsen Dow 67
Jim Karrick 68
Mike Ginelli 69

Affiliate Low Gross

Dave Bingham 73

Mike Ligon 75

Ron Maio 82

Guest Low Net

Mark Rogers 68
Neal Hottelling 95

Guest Low Gross

Brad Langley 80
Bob Zoller 85

Ladies Low Net

Vallerie Schmidt 70
Brenda Pfabe 78

Closest to the Pin

#4 - Pete Bibber, 15"
#6 - Ray Story, 32'7"
#12 - Tim Greenwald, 7'3"
#14 - Jess Pifferini, 26'4"

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Leon Snethen (rt) and Tom Jackson check in golfers for the Larry Lloyd Memorial Tournament

Christmas in Monterey

Leon Snethen

The annual Christmas party was held on December 3rd. The festivities started with the Larry Lloyd Memorial Tournament at Old Del Monte Golf Course, and continued with a cocktail hour and dinner at the Doubletree Hotel at Fisherman's Wharf.

Pete Bibber had the golf course in excellent condition

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FYI

Is Your Renewal In?

Renewal cards for 1994 are being mailed as we receive the renewal checks and forms. If you have sent your money but not your form, you won't be getting your card until the office has your renewal form on file. It is important for us to have this form on file as it updates the Association's database for the directory and newsletter, monthly meeting notices, job notices, and all other communications of the Association.

If you haven't sent your dues renewal check and form you are now delinquent. All renewals received after December 31, 1993, are assessed an additional \$20 late fee. So, unpile the desk, look under the chair and in the drawers, find and mail your renewal form along with your check for membership dues. ..oh, yes, and the additional \$20.

CHRISTMAS

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Lynn Quinzon/PW Pipe Co
Mike Kearby/Hunter Golf Signs
Robert T. Scafe/Pacific Golf Signs
Ronnie Rogers/Automatic Rain Co
Russell D. Mitchell/Russell D. Mitchell and Assoc.
Steve Pasalich/Bay Counties Sand and Gravel

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the next 3 1/2 years working on golf course construction and irrigation at several courses: Mission Hills CC, Monterey CC, Desert Horizon CC, and Shandon Hills GC.

Bill wanted to get into golf maintenance about that time, but opportunity knocked elsewhere.

Friends in Kuwait informed him of the money and opportunity available there working on landscape and irrigation projects. It was

quite an experience working in a foreign country -- much of it prepared him for working with Boards of Directors later on. The last project over there was a contract to landscape 26 kilometers of just-finished freeways. This took about 2 1/2 years for completion. During that time, he met his wife, Pam, who is from Michigan; his daughter, Carolyn, who is now seven, was born in Kuwait.

After 4 1/2 years it was time to go home.

Upon returning to the states, he was finally able to realize his goal of becoming a golf course superintendent. He was hired as superintendent at Del Rio CC in Brawley, California, south of the Palm Springs area, where he stayed for four years. Like many superintendents, Bill chose the profession because of his love of the game. However, he found, as most of you have, that the challenges and time commitment involved in the job have

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Tips from the USGA New Year's Resolution

*by Pat Gross,
USGA Agronomist*

The beginning of a new year is traditionally the time when we look back over the past year's successes and failures, and resolve to make improvements. This is basically another way to set personal goals. Golf Course superintendents know better than anyone the importance of setting goals and planning for the coming year. As I was going through this exercise myself, some ideas came to mind that I thought would be worth sharing with you.

1. Develop an interest outside of golf. For your own health and well being, it is important to get away from the golf course to relax and recharge your batteries. Spend more time with your family or develop an interest in a non-golf related hobby to take your mind off the pressures of the job.
2. Brush up on specific topic related to golf course management. Review one of your books on soils or entomology, or any topic of your choice to refresh your knowledge base and keep up with current technology.
3. Learn more about wildlife enhancement and the environment on your golf course. These are significant topics for today's superintendent. It is important to learn as much as possible about these issues for the betterment of your golf course, your profession, and your community.
4. Establish an I.P.M. program for your golf course. Many superintendents already practice integrated pest management, however, very few have a formal, well-documented program.
5. Take frequent photographs of your golf course and develop a photo journal. Pictures of projects, problems, new equipment or other items can be an important tool for communicating with golfers and club officials.
6. Make room on your staff for a student intern. Many superintendents started out as a student intern and this is one way of giving something back to your industry and profession. Contact local colleges with turfgrass management programs and offer your course to interns.

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severely limited the amount of play he can get in.

Bill has been at Salinas Golf and Country Club for just over two years now. There are still a lot of projects to complete, but he and his crew keep chugging away one by one.

Bill has been a member of GCSANC for two years. He was elected to the board last April and serves on the programs committee. Bill is a member of GCSAA and became a certified Golf Course Superintendent in April.

RESOLUTIONS

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- 7. Occasionally invite a neighboring superintendent to your course for lunch or a game of golf. It is amazing how many good ideas are generated during casual get-togethers and the opportunity to "talk turf" with one of your colleagues.
- 8. Write an article for your association newsletter. Most newsletter editors

are always looking for original articles or a different perspective on a common problem. This is another good way to share information and give something back to your profession.

- 9. Volunteer to speak at a local school or civic group meeting about golf course management. It can be frightening to speak to a large group, but there are many people who love golf and would like to learn more about what you do as a golf course superintendent. Personal contacts such as this can make a positive impact on school children, politicians, and members of the community.

- 10. Make contact with your local legislator and offer yourself as a resource of information on issues pertaining to golf courses. Your input and professional expertise can have a positive influence on the laws and regulations that affect our industry. Most legislators would value having such a source of information in their district. The same holds true for local newspapers. They want to hear all sides of an issue. Make yourself available for quotes and rebuttals.

If you are like me, many of my new year's resolutions are out the window by February. But it is important to keep on trying. Even if I can

tackle two or three of my goals, I will have made significant progress. Happy New Year!

Watch Out For That First Step!

Both Jack Nicklaus and his opponent placed their drives on the edge of the 80-foot oceanside cliff at the eighth hole at Pebble Beach during the 1961 U.S. Amateur. The green was on the far side of the chasm, and the referee, Joseph Dey, could not tell who was away. He was about to toss a coin when, as he later told *Golf* magazine, Nicklaus made a suggestion: "Why don't you pace it off?"

NAUMANN'S NORCAL NEWS

Jed Noonkester has replaced **Ed Manry** as superintendent at Napa Muni Golf Course. Jed was the superintendent at Mace Meadows in Pioneer prior to his move. Ed has moved to the Eastern seaboard to do some golf construction work...**Ken Schwark**, Superintendent at Tony Lema Golf Center in San Leandro, and his wife Sarah are the proud parents of a new

daughter, Julia Fay...**Phil Brown** has accepted the superintendent position at Stockton Golf & Country Club. Phil was the superintendent at the Villages CC in Lompoc prior to his move. Phil is replacing longtime member **Charles "Bill" Fountain** who is retiring after being a superintendent for over 25 years, the last eight at Stockton CC.



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