JANUARY 1994

THRU THE GREEN

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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

Continued from page 4 Lynn Quinzon/PW Pipe Co Mike Kearby/Hunter Golf igns 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

JANUARY MEETING

Continued from page 1 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 inormed 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 justfinished 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 Continued on page 6

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.
- 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.
- Establish an I.P.M. program for your golf course. Many superintendents already practice integrated pest management, however, very few have a formal, welldocumented 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.