

## THRU THE GREEN

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### Thru the Green

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## Bylaws Change Recommended

by Rod Kilcoyne

It appears to be time for a change. I have taken the initiative to propose this change to the GCSANC bylaws based upon discussions and information I acquired attending board meetings for the last eight years.

I am asking you to consider the change, listen to the pros and cons, and be prepared to vote at the upcoming annual meeting. I hope you agree this change would be for the good of our organization and our industry.

It deals with **Article II - Membership**, which defines the application process and the various classifications. The revision of Section 5 would allow attainment of Class A status after six years without testing. **There is no change to the current wording -- only an addition to the first portion.**

### Article II, Section 5.

Approval or Rejection of Application. Application for membership shall be reviewed by the Board of Directors at a scheduled meeting. Each

*Continued on page 5*

## What Have You Done For Me Lately?

*Keep an idea file containing all the new cost-cutting, time-saving, profit-making ideas you've presented for the year. Note dates and track outcomes.*

*Discuss them during your evaluation.*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It's only March, but here goes my attempt to actually do something ahead of schedule!

As everyone probably knows by now, next year's GCSAA International Conference and Show will be held in San Francisco. That makes GCSANC the host chapter, and, as host, we are responsible for putting nine members on the GCSAA Conference and Show Committee. This was easily done when I volunteered GCSANC's Board of Directors, as well as the president of the State Chapter, Bob Tillema, and one other local member who wanted one of those little yellow "host" ribbons to hang from his name badge at the show.

It will be up to these nine committee members to try

and coerce additional volunteers to assist with various duties, such as:

- People to welcome spouse attendees to the spouse activity center and provide local information on attractions in the area. In the past, spouses of local members have volunteered.

- "Ambassadors" who will gain knowledge of the convention center layout, hotel locations, and shuttle bus routes in order to welcome and guide conference attendees during the conference.

- People to assist the GCSAA in the coordination and promotion of the conference and show with the local media.

- People to promote the attendance of the conference and show to allied green industry individuals such as

Parks and Rec. Departments, the local PGA, CMAA, USGA officials, and green chairmen from the area.

If any of these activities sounds interesting to you or your spouse, please contact me or any of the board members and we will contact you as the time of the show approaches.

*"You hear about constitutional rights, free speech, and the free press. Every time I hear these words, I say to myself, 'That man is a Red, that man is a communist!' You never hear a real American talk like that."*

Mayor Frank Hague  
Jersey City, NJ, 1938

Respectfully submitted  
Brian Bagley  
President

**BYLAWS CHANGES***Continued from page 2*

applicant for Class A or B membership will be required to pass a written and/or oral examination which has been approved by the Board of Directors, except the Board may waive examinations for those Class A or B members of a GCSA chapter that requires testing for both classifications and have been active members of that association for a minimum of three years. *The Board may grant Class A-Life or Class A status to those members of the Association that have met all other qualifications except examination, after a period of six (6) years.*

These proposed changes have been submitted to the Secretary/Treasurer and will

appear on the ballot at the Annual Meeting. Please consider them carefully.

**NEWSLETTERS***Continued from page 4*

to the members and that it is the responsibility of Adams Publishing to spearhead an advertising campaign that will increase advertising revenues on a more measurable basis.

It was also agreed that the local superintendents should do everything in their power to let their reps know they've seen ads in the magazine and if their purchasing has been influenced by these ads.

**CHOOSING A TREE SERVICE***Continued from page 3*

Biology; Pruning; Installation and Establishment; Safety and Climbing; Nutrition and Fertilization; Trees, People, and Ecology; and Cabling and Bracing. A list of certified arborists and tree workers can be obtained from the ISA office or from your local University of California Cooperative Extension office.

In addition to certification with the ISA, membership in the National Arborists Association (NAA) is an indication of professionalism and a commitment to tree care. The NAA has an extensive library of training programs available to its members and many members use these programs on a regular basis.

As of January of 1992, the

State of California now requires a contractor's license for the performance of any tree work exceeding \$300.00. A contractor's license isn't necessarily an assurance of a company's performance, but it usually means that the company has adequate liability and worker's compensation insurance, pays payroll taxes for their employees, and runs their company in a business-like fashion.

Certification, contractor's license, membership in trade associations are all key criteria for selection of a tree service. The last piece of the puzzle is references. Ask for at least three references and follow up on these references. The trees on your property represent a lifetime investment and should be trimmed by qualified professionals.

**Tips from the USGA  
Dreaded Diseases***by Pat Gross, USGA Agronomist*

Every year when I return from the GCSAA International Conference, I am grateful to be living and working in the Southwestern United States. During the conference, I hear superintendents from other parts of the country describe the tremendous disease and insect pressures they face on their courses throughout the year. It doesn't sound like much fun! We are fortunate to have lower disease pressures in the West, but that is not to say we don't get any diseases at all.

This month I wanted to share some ideas on disease management for those times when you do have to battle the mysterious creeping crud that is devouring your turf.

☒ **First, it is important** to send a cup cutter sample of the damaged area to a diagnostic laboratory for an accurate identification. Sample the edge of the infected area and include a Polaroid photograph of the symptoms. Also, enclose a letter describing the symptoms, weather patterns, and cultural management programs.

☒ **Make a field diagnosis** using your experience, diagnostic tools, and the most up-to-date references available.

☒ **Consider cultural factors** such as mowing height, water application, shade and air circulation. The disease may only be a symptom of greater problems.

☒ **If a pesticide application is necessary**, select the proper materials and apply according to manufacturers label directions and in accordance with any state and local regulations. If the pesticide you have applied does not control the disease, check your diagnosis - you may be treating for the wrong disease.

☒ **Try to treat individual greens** as opposed to all eighteen or twenty greens. This is more economical and more consistent with proper IPM practices.

☒ **Don't spray** if it is not necessary. Some diseases only cause cosmetic symptoms and will disappear with a change of weather. Try to determine how much damage you can tolerate before treatment is necessary, then, let common sense and good judgement be your guides.

It's also good to have reference books on hand to assist with field diagnosis. Here are a few I would recommend:

<i>Compendium of Turfgrass Diseases</i>	<i>A Guide to Integrated Control of Turfgrass Diseases</i>
Am. Phytopathological Soc	GCSAA Press
3340 Pilot Knob Rd.	1421 Research Park Dr.
St. Paul, MN 55121-2097	Lawrence, KS 66049-3859