

# THRU THE GREEN

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

NOVEMBER 1994

## THE MEETING PLACE

### December 5, 1994 Christmas Tournament

**Meadow Club  
Host Superintendent:  
David Sexton, CGCS**

**T**he Course: The Meadow Club, originally the Meadow Club of Mt. Tamalpais, was designed in 1925 by Dr. Alistair MacKenzie and constructed by Robert Hunter. The course was laid out on 150 acres of hills and meadows that were incorporated into the design of the Meadow Club giving it a very natural feel as it flowed through the valleys

and crested on the hills. The natural seasonal creeks were used to their full potential as the greens and fairways were strategically placed in areas that would get full shot value from their location. The course has but one small lake, but a full ten holes have water hazards along or across that must be considered when playing a ball to the narrow fairways.

Playing to a par 71, this course seems to stretch its 6,600 yards well beyond what a quick glance at the score card would suggest. Sixty bunkers protecting the small greens and challenging tree-lined roughs offer most golfers a chance to use every club in their bag, for better or

worse.

The goal of the 350 members has always been to keep their club and course in top condition, but the job was difficult in the 60s and 70s with an inadequate irrigation system and a drainage nightmare from winters that averaged over 50 inches of rain.

In 1984, a Toro VT3 irrigation system, designed by Roger Gordon and installed by Robert McCallum of Phoenix, signaled the beginning of a new standard of maintenance for the Meadow Club. When the members saw the tremendous improvement in the quality of the turf with an adequate and uniform application of

irrigation, they began to fully appreciate the potential of their club.

Since 1984, the course improvement program has been continuous and many of the goals have been met. Accomplished over the last ten years have been: a complete rebuild of all sixty bunkers; the installation of several miles of drain lines; fifteen of the tees have been leveled, realigned and lengthened; two-thirds of the cart paths have been replaced with concrete paths; and the entire Driving Range area has been reconstructed.

The Meadow Club is currently in the middle of replacing the Pro Shop, cart

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## SIERRA NEVADA TAKES INAUGURAL "CUP"

The joint meeting with SNGCSA was held at Edgewood G.C. in Stateline, Nevada. Steve Seibel was the host superintendent. Over 150 people attended, mostly superintendents, with both associations being equally represented. Armen Suny, a golf course consultant and former golf course superintendent, was the speaker. The topic was "Major Tournament Preparations." Mr. Suny has been the superintendent at Cherry Hills, where he hosted the PGA, and at Castle Pines, where he hosted the skins game. Mr. Suny was very descriptive relating his many experiences involving golf course preparation for the game's "elite."

The staff at Edgewood presented a delicious brunch and then it was out to the golf course, which was in superb condition. A "tip of the hat" to Steve Seibel for his excellent work. This year's event featured the inaugural "Ryder Cup Match" between 12 selected players from each Association. There were 12 singles matches and 6 Better Ball matches, each worth 2 points. A handsome perpetual trophy was donated by Sierra Pacific Turf Supply to be passed on from year to year to the winning team. It was a wonderful experience to intermingle with "supers" from another association.

The Sierra Nevada Association proved to be very gracious hosts, except for the fact they

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## FYI

by Barbara Mikels

By now all of the dues renewal forms have been mailed. If you have yours ready to return make sure I get the questionnaire and your renewal check. You need both of these to renew your 1995 membership. Also note, this is due before January 1, 1995, or you are subject to a \$20.00 late fee. Make sure your accounting department checks the mailing address. I know it has been over a year since I moved my office but I still receive mail at the old address and the forwarding order will be expiring shortly.

Just a note about timely dues renewal...The dues renewal forms help us get your mail routed correctly and tell the board of directors what is new in your professional life. Have you become a superintendent since your last renewal? Were you promoted to assistant? We do not know about the changes in your life unless you let us know. This information is the basis of preparation of any and all changes so we can give you accurate information in the directory.

## MEADOW CLUB

*Continued from page 1*

barn, members' lockers, and the mixed grills. This job started in April, 1994, and is expected to be completed in June, 1995.

The main clubhouse is not being replaced and the Pro Shop, cart barn and grill are in temporary structures.

**The Superintendent**

Dave Sexton, CGCS, has been the superintendent for the Meadow Club for thirteen years.

He got his start in the business by working at the Paso Robles Golf and Country Club while a student at Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo. After graduating with a B.S. degree in Ornamental Horticulture, he spent four years as the superintendent for the Ojai Valley Inn before moving on to the Meadow Club.

David has been married for over 20 years and has an eight year old daughter, Sasha, who has already taken up golf -- and will probably soon be beating her dad who has never really mastered this game, though he loves to play.

**Naumann's Norcal News**

**Tim Sedgley** has accepted the superintendent's position at Serrano Country Club in El Dorado Hills. This is a new club designed by Robert Trent Jones Jr. and is being built by **Wadsworth Construction Co...** **Todd Norton** is the superintendent at Ruby Hill Country Club in the Livermore Valley. Todd was the assistant at T.P.C. in Scottsdale. Ruby Hill Country Club is designed by Jack Nicklaus and is being constructed by **Fairway Construction**. **Key Irrigation** is installing the irrigation system...**Stanford Golf Club** is completing the reconstruction of all 18 greens. Superintendent **Tom Thatcher** reports everything is going well and as planned. **John Harbottle** redesigned the greens to look as natural as possible. **Landscapes Unlimited** is doing the construction...**David Hays** has accepted the superintendent's position at Salinas Golf & Country Club. Dave was the assistant at Monterey Peninsula prior to his move. Dave is replacing Board Member **Bill Kissick** who moved to Roseville to build the Sun City Country Club and remain as superintendent.



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