

## THRU THE GREEN

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is a great pleasure to announce that the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America has selected Dr. Ali Harivandi as one of three recipients to be honored with the Association's 1995 Distinguished Service Award. The awards will be presented during the Opening Session on Thursday, February 23 at the GCSAA International Golf Course Conference and Show in San Francisco.

Many of us have known Ali for a number of years and are familiar with his dedication to the golf course superintendents. He is always accessible to help solve a problem whether it be simple

or complex. In his role as an environmental horticulturist with the University of California Cooperative Extension, Dr. Harivandi has been a moving force establishing the use of effluent water on golf courses. He has produced publications which will be beneficial to generations of superintendents and horticulturists as well. Dr. Harivandi's expertise as a research scientist is greatly appreciated today and in the years to come.

Dr. Harivandi has been very active in our Association here in Northern California, most notably as co-chairman of our Annual Golf Course Superintendents Institute

which has proven to be a very successful undertaking. Ali occasionally attends our board of directors meetings to bring us what is "new" on the horizon and also what should be passed along to our superintendents. He is also a regular contributor to our newsletter.

We, the golf course superintendents of Northern California, are very fortunate to have such a dedicated and true friend. Please join me in congratulating Dr. Ali Harivandi for receiving this well deserved and prestigious award.

See you on the tee,  
Randy Gai, CGCS  
President

## Rutgers Report

by PJ Spellman, II

After completing my final year at Rutgers Professional Golf Turfgrass Management School, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank some individuals who helped make it possible. First, I'd like to thank Randy Gai, the Board of Directors of GCSANC, and anyone else responsible for granting me the \$1500 scholarship last June. That scholarship paid for my tuition and allowed me to use money from my savings account to help support my family while I was away at school. Second, I'd like to thank my superintendent, Manny Sousa, and General Manager, Paul Porter, for approving my personal leave of absence and supporting my decision to pursue quality education. Finally, I'd like to thank my lovely wife, Tina, for encouraging me and supporting my decision to attend Rutgers. We both realized that attaining Rutgers certification would enhance my turfgrass career and outweigh the hardship of a temporary separation.

So what is the Rutgers program? This course is presented in two ten-week sessions of comprehensive learning focused on golf turfgrass management. Also required are two seasons of supervised field experience at a golf course of your choice to allow the student to apply some of the technical and intellectual skills developed in the classroom.

Some of the topics taught in this program are: botany, soils, turfgrass morphology and ID, weed ID and control, diseases of turfgrass and ornamentals, landscape plants and design, and irrigation, just to name a few. Also included are personal skills such as managing employees, writing skills, effective speaking, computer skills, and budgeting and financial management. Needless to say, there's a lot to learn in a ten week period. However, the combination of textbooks and a binder each year to hold all handouts and other materials gives each student an ample supply of resources to keep for future

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**RUTGERS**

*Continued from page 2*  
reference.

This course also stresses the importance of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) as a key to successful turfgrass management. The cultural practices of proper fertility, irrigation and mowing heights greatly influence turf health and density. The healthier the turf, the more resistant it is to the invasion of pests such as weeds, fungi and insects. This in turn should decrease the amount of pesticides needed which is better for the environment and also saves money. IPM was a topic discussed often and should be an essential part of every good turfgrass manager's program.

In summary, these two years at Rutgers have been a

positive learning experience for me. Combined with my fifteen years of golf course turfgrass experience, I'm hopeful for the opportunity to implement my own program as a golf course superintendent in the near future.

If anyone has any questions about the Rutgers program, feel free to contact me. However, it's not my intention to solely recommend Rutgers Turf School for college education. Continuing education is a career-long process. Rutgers is just one of many viable alternatives to choose from. I exhort any superintendent who has employees with the desire to advance in our profession to encourage them to attend one of the programs available.

**FYI**

*by Barbara Mikel*

Well, a new year is upon us already. First of all, Happy New Year. I am looking forward to another enjoyable year with GCSANC.

With the New Year comes all the bills from last year. This includes some of your 1995 Dues Renewals for the Association.

At the end of December 1994, a \$20 late fee was assessed to all who had not yet paid 1995 dues. If you have not received your card by this time, chances are I haven't received your renewal check and questionnaire. If I have one and not the other, I have been sending notices. In any event, I can not waive the late fee, so please don't ask. If you feel you have a legitimate reason for being late, write a letter to the Board of Directors requesting they consider the reason and waive the late fee. If your accounting department simply didn't get it out in a timely manner, chances are almost 100% you will have to pay the extra charge. The late fee is really an attempt to cover the additional costs of sending bills (paper and office time).

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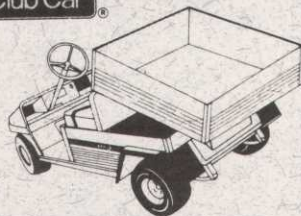


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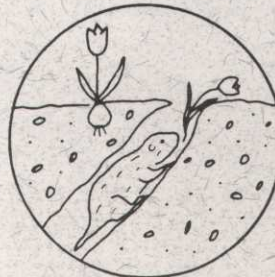
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