

# THRU THE GREEN



November, 1997

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California

— Committed to Responsible Turfgrass Management —

## Davies Represents NorCal at Delegate Meeting

By: Dave Davies, CGCS

I had the recent privilege to travel to GCSAA Headquarters as the GCSANC representative at the Chapter Relations Meeting. As has been the case in past trips to Lawrence, it was a positive experience. There was much to be discussed in the day and a half meeting. What follows is a brief summary of some of the pertinent information.

- Membership Standards: preliminary discussion on entry level membership standards and requirements to maintain Class A (ie. continuing education). The committee is working on a schedule that work put implementation in the range of 2000-2002. The hope is to put CGSAA membership in a more professional light by requiring more than just years of service to achieve advancing levels.
- GCSAA hosted a meeting with executives from 28

management companies to open a dialogue on expectation levels and observations of superintendents. The information was contradictory in that most companies want superintendents to be more polished in the business aspect of the job but they still prefer "working superintendents."

- The web site is getting 250,000 "hits" each month. Registration forms for conference and show as well as seminars are available on the site. Discussion on chapter participation, costs and long range goals also took place. It will continue to grow and be refined. It is a definite work in progress.
- Review of minor changes in the Code of Ethics and the process that takes place for violations.
- A 3.5 million dollar fund raising campaign has been initiated to focus on applied research projects on golf courses and education for

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## November Marks Return of The Institute

It all began seven months ago. The Education Committee comprised of Ali Harivandi, Dave Davies, CGCS, Gary Carls, CGCS, Brian Bagley, Ray Davies, CGCS and Bob Costa, CGCS, assembled for the first time with the task of developing the program for the Superintendents Institute. Much has been accomplished since that first meeting in March. With all the planning now complete the stage is set for GCSANC's premier educational event of the year.

The two day program kicks off with an affordable shotgun golf tournament at Windsor Golf Club (see related story). Day one is capped by what promised to be a lively 6:00 p.m. reception at the Hilton, complete with full Hors d'oeuvres and hosted bar.

Day two features the main event. An educational program that will focus on practical issues related to course renovation, the masterplan process and environmental projects. With a wide range of talented speakers, complete with trade show, the conference promises to be both entertaining and informative.

In an effort to make this the most enjoyable Institute ever, this year's program offers some added bonuses. Due to return to the 65 year anniversary memorabilia display. Also each attendee will receive a complimentary NorCal logoed travel mug and the chance to win one of several turfgrass management books donated by Ann Arbor Press. It's the must see, must do, educational event of the year.

## Salary Surveys On The Way

Are you curious about how you stack up against the wages and benefits earned by your peers? Well the answer to those questions are on the way, assuming that you take just a few minutes to fill out the salary survey you recently received. The 1997 version has been slightly modified and includes geographical information and a separate category for multi-facility managers.

The credibility of any survey is increased by the number of respondents, so please, don't delay, return yours today. You owe it to yourself and your fellow industry professionals. (Only those surveys received before December 31st will be included.)

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