September, 1997

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California
— Committed to Responsible Turfgrass Management —

Mira Vista, Barberio Host September Fund Raiser

Mira Vista Golf and Country Club, the site for September’s Scholarship/Research and Education Tournament, history dates back to the early 1920’s. It was then that a group of business professionals from Berkeley and nearby areas developed what was originally known as Berkeley Country Club.

The group commissioned William Watson, a golf course architect from Scotland, to design the course located in the hills overlooking the East Bay. The 18 hole layout, which hosted its first match in 1921 gained an immediate reputation for its majestic vistas of San Francisco, Treasure Island, Alcatraz, Mt. Tamalpais and later the Golden Gate bridge. These views were magnificently captured in the English manor style clubhouse which has since been modernized and is currently undergoing a million dollar renovation.

Boysen, Paulsen and Silva Recognized For Service

Walter R. Boysen, Paul C. Paulsen and Edward J. Silva were paid tribute at the recently concluded 65 year celebration at Fort Ord. Mr. Boysen and Mr. Paulsen were awarded Honorary memberships. Mr. Paulsen also received a 50 year pin. Mr. Silva who recently passed away, was awarded a 50 year pin posthumously. Each individual’s contributions are many, punctuated by impressive careers.

Walter Boysen began his association with golf in 1931 working as a greensman at Orinda CC. 1933 saw him begin his lifelong career as the superintendent at Sequoyah CC. Mr. Boysen continued his service to the industry as certification cochairman and GCSAA President in 1967. He also served as the President of the GCSANC in 1957. Mr. Silva began his association with GCSANC as the Superintendent at Del Rio CC in Modesto. Prior to that Mr. Silva held positions at Stanislaus CC and Del Paso CC. Mr. Silva continued his career as the Superintendent at Silverado CC in Napa and Monterey Peninsula CC. Mr. Silva served as a member of the GCSANC Board of Directors in 1951.

Forty years of service at one golf course- San Francisco Golf Club, best describes Paul Paulsen. He served as a member of the GCSANC Board of Directors in 1951 and President in 1954.

The original group of investors facing bankruptcy, re-incorporated under the current name of Mira Vista Golf and Country Club and leased the facility to the membership. In 1980 the ownership group reached a decision to sell the entire property, and subsequently transferred the title to the 353 charter members.

Mira Vista’s heritage has been in the capable hands of GCSANC Superintendent, Frank Barberio, since 1972. Frank, who is recognized as one of the leading Superintendents in the area began his career at Mira Vista as a member of the maintenance crew in 1961. During his tenure he has directed many course improvements including the installation of a computerized irrigation system and as one might expect in such a location, drainage. Currently he is planning the construction of a practice facility and teaching area. He is joined at Mira Vista by Golf Professional, Carol Pence.

Special Thanks

A special thanks is due to those individuals whose contributions to the 65 Year Celebration are appreciated.

Barbara Mikel
Gary Carls, CGCS
Cliff Wagoner, CGCS
Myrtle Wagoner
Rich Lavine, CGCS
Bob Hanna
Dr. Jim Watson
Leonard Theis and Staff
Blake Swint

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