Ray Davies, CGCS, A Man On The Go

By: Ken Williams, CGCS

Ray Davies, CGCS, is a fantastic time manager. He has to be. In the course of one day, Ray wears a lot of hats. He is not just the Golf Course Superintendent at Crystal Springs. He’s also the General Manager. Oh yes, and also the Director of Maintenance and Construction for CourseCo Inc. He happens to be responsible for golf course maintenance at all eight CourseCo managed properties as well as the agronomic aspects of all management proposals. Add that to the responsibilities of a father of a large family, and you have a man that is always on the go!

Ray has been tremendously active over the years in golf course management. He’s a past president of the CGCSA and twice past president of the Southern California GCISA. He is currently serving on the GCSAA Membership Standards Resource Group. He’s written articles for the USGA Green Section Record, Golf Course News and California Fairways and taught seminars on reclaimed water, pesticide use and environmental management.

Ray is fortunate to have First Assistant Superintendent, Chuck Mustain, to handle day to day operations at Crystal Springs. Ray, Chuck and Environmental Coordinator, Jim Mocci, make up a threesome that have taken Crystal Springs to a higher level. They are completing a million dollar renovation of the clubhouse, have constructed a driving range, pump station and back nine irrigation system. The course, under their leadership, has won environmental recognition from the Peninsula Conservation Center Foundation, California WRAP recyclers, Wildlife Habitat Council and Golf Digest as the 1999 Environmental Leader Award winner. Ray was named recipient of the GCSAA Environmental Steward Award in 1997 and clearly hasn’t rested since. Ray is the first to credit CourseCo President, Tom Isaak, for his foresight and commitment to leadership in environmental golf course management.

Ray is looking forward to sharing his environmental work with fellow Superintendents. He has been instrumental in developing an outstanding program for the 1st Annual Field Workshop to be held May 4th at Crystal. Ray, his crew and a number of renown turf and environmental experts will be there to showcase their efforts. And you can bet, Ray will be at full steam ahead!

California GCSA Comes To Reno

“Management For The Next Millennium”

The State Meeting is set for May 17 and 18 at John Ascuaga’s Nugget in Reno. This year’s meeting is being hosted by the Sierra Nevada GCSA. The meeting is entitled “Management for the Next Millennium” and is designed to provide superintendents with the tools to deal with changes in the next century. Golf will be held Monday, the 17th at the Red Hawk Golf Club where Tim Schobert is Superintendent. The educational program follows on Tuesday with headlining speakers Robert Sexton, Gerry Sweda and Daniel Church. Topics include negotiation, member relations, and the changing roles of the golf course superintendent. The event promises to be a fun and educational getaway. The State Meeting is also a chance to renew those old friendships with colleagues from around the state. Hope to see you in Reno!

InteleCady To Sponsor GCSANC Annual Supt/Pro Tournament

GolfPro International, Inc., the builders of InteleCady, have agreed to sponsor the Supt/Pro Tournament at San Jose CC on June 7th.

InteleCady is the first personal service, electric powered, robotic caddie. It is a device that “knows” the detailed geography of the course, navigates its way independently, and uses proper golf etiquette while furnishing the services of a human caddie. It can serve one or two players and is “superintendent friendly.” The control center is programmed to detail where on the golf course the Cady can go. With the InteleCady, the superintendent can eliminate ropes, signs and even modify traffic patterns around the course. And for winter play, the InteleCady won’t damage even the wettest turf. The GCSANC thanks InteleCady and will recognize them at the event.