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THRU THE GREEN

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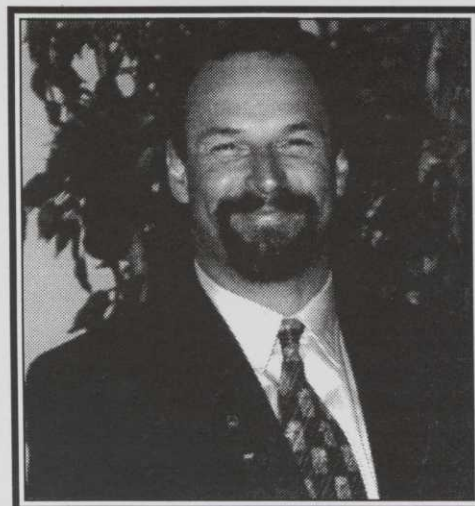
THRU THE GREEN

From The President

The joint meeting with Sierra Nevada is in the books and some thank yous are in order. First and foremost, Gil Stiles and the entire staff at Hiddenbrooke CC are to be commended. The new clubhouse was wonderful, the food and service were great and the golf course was in beautiful shape. We may have to review pin placements but I know our group wasn't fazed by any slopes or ridges. Great job Gil. How about that speaker! Tom Wolff from Snoqualmie Ridge. He certainly had some great insight on major tournament preparation, membership opinions and dealing with the media. Final thanks go out to our event sponsors from Rainbird Golf, Normac and Sierra Pacific Turf Supply.

The meeting also saw a presentation by Dave Berger, Chairman of the University of California at Davis, Department of Environmental Horticulture. Dave is presenting the possibility of a renewed Turf program at UCD. There is a great deal of history through this University (ever heard of the California Greens construction method?) For a number of years there have been complaints within the industry that there is not enough "local" research. This might be a good match for our industry and the University. Dave can be reached at (530) 752-0398 for more information.

I would like to make a few reminders for those of you looking to fill in your schedule in January. We have our annual meeting at Palo Alto GC on the 18th. This will be an opportunity to hear first hand the latest information on the GCSAA Professional Development Initiative. It is critical that we get member participation and input on what is being proposed. There is a great deal of misinformation circulating and this may clear up some questions. A full copy of the current proposal is available on the GCSAA Website. There will also be seminars presented by GCSAA in Pleasanton. Those looking for recertification credit,



Dave Davies, CGCS

QAC hours or maybe some new information are encouraged to attend. There should be registration information in the mail in early November.

The GCSANC Board has been discussing a way to promote junior golf for the last three or four months. There has been some information made available on the Junior program in Alameda run by Jerry Berrow. We will be soliciting donations of any new or used golf equipment over the next few months. Look in your garage, closet or the corner of your shop and see if there isn't something that you no longer use, or in my case would be better off not using, that could be of use to Jerry and his kids. This is a great step towards promoting the future of the game that provides for our livelihood. Quoting Winston Churchill, "we make a living by what we get, we make a life by what we give."

We will begin accepting donations at the December meeting at Del Monte and at the Annual meeting in Palo Alto. We hope to have Jerry in attendance in January for a presentation of the goods.

A final thought. I have had conversations with a few superintendents regarding comp golf for GCSANC members. We are all well aware of the need to notify the host superintendent when you are playing at their course. It is a Bylaws issue and listed in the Code of Ethics. Most superintendents want to be notified

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President's Message (Cont'd)

prior to you getting the starting time especially if you would like the round to be complimentary. Talk to the potential host before making any arrangements. This will allow your host to explain any restrictions that might apply. I may also allow him or her to get you a better time. It is always tough to establish a policy that works all the time, but courtesy to your host is always a good start.

Dues statements will be out soon. Prompt returns, with current information, updated phone numbers and e-mail will allow for an accurate resource for your own use. Keep those opinions rolling in (I received three this last month!) ↗

Office Notes

By: Barbara Mikel

November 1999

Fall at last? Sure seems like late summer to me. The air-conditioning is still in full swing and I have yet to see any "wet weather". Maybe soon!

At this time of the year, you can count on the annual renewal processing beginning. Each year we mail invoices and a job description update to each one of you. The year 2000 dues are paid in advance and are due by December 31, 1999. Come January, there is a \$20.00 late fee charged to those not yet renewed. After January, you are dropped from the association membership lists and have to reapply. That is costly! \$150.00 to \$175.00.

Failure to renew can also jeopardize your GCSAA membership. Unless you were "grandfathered" in 1997 you must maintain both memberships.

Since our annual meeting has changed to January, I hope to have an updated directory out by March 2000. I know promises, promises but I can only try! The lack of delay will mean a longer period when telephone numbers and club are accurate providing you get those questionnaires back to me! ↗

In Memoriam

The GCSANC lost a devoted member last month. **Al Deschene** passed away on October 4th. He was 50 years old. Al was affiliated with Farmload Distributors/Floratine Products and All Grow Supply & Service. He will be missed.

Harivandi Starts Ryegrass Trial

UCCE's Dr. Ali Harivandi has begun a perennial ryegrass evaluation trial at the Sunnyvale Golf Course. Dr. Harivandi and his staff will evaluate all commercially available perennial ryegrasses at the site. He also hopes to find grasses which show resistance to Gray Leaf Spot, the disease that has devastated the Midwest. For more information, contact Ali at the UCCE. ↗

Time to Reserve Your Room For The Holiday Meeting

This year's Holiday meeting is being held Friday December 10th at the Monterey Beach Hotel (yes, they've been kind enough to have us back!) Golf follows the next morning at the beautiful Del Monte GC. This is a meeting you don't want to miss.

Reservation deadline is November 19th

Monterey Beach Hotel

(831) 394-3321

(800) 242-8627

Oceanside

Single/double \$109.00

Additional person \$10.00

Gardenside

Single/Double \$79.00

Additional person \$10.00

Tournament Tips

By Terry Grasso

Christmas is just a few weeks away. I'm sure that new golf equipment is on everyone's wish list. So, save all of your previously used equipment (drivers, bags, putters, etc.) and bring them to the GCSANC Annual Meeting in January at Palo Alto.

The GCSANC is hoping to make a generous contribution of both used equipment and driving range credit to Jerry Berrow and the Alameda Junior Golf Program. This program was featured back in the September "Thru the Green" newsletter.

If you have any questions about this very worthy program, or would like to make a contribution through your company or club, call me at (650) 343-3147.

Personally, I have a golf bag, two wedges, and three putters that I don't wish to look at any more. And maybe one driver.....if it lives until January!