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From The President

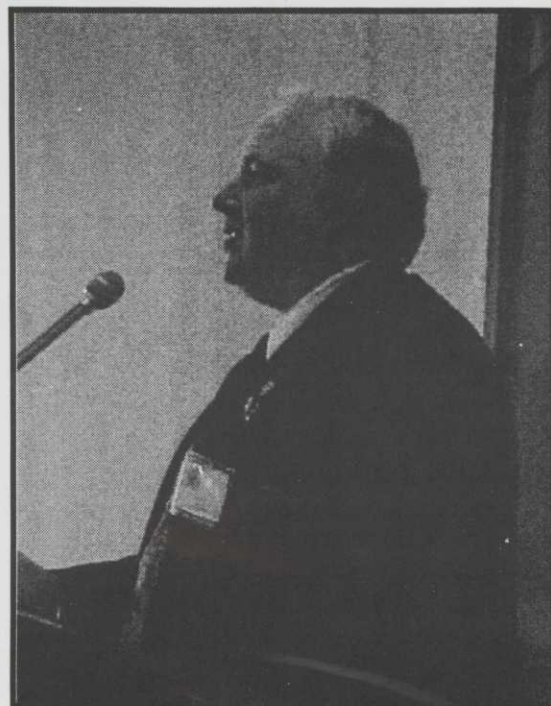
By Gary Carls, CGCS

Our April 2nd Media Day event is almost upon us. I want to thank Jeff Shafer and the people at Wente Vineyards for stepping up as a last minute replacement host for this event. Jeff has planned a full day of activities for us to go along with a media panel discussion. If you haven't had the opportunity to visit this great facility, this is one day you won't want to miss.

Over the last few months, several of you have asked about what my position is on the GCSAA's PDI. Having been involved in many phases of this initiative from focus groups to committee discussion, here is my current position. It must be understood that these are only my personal opinions.

I have felt that there needs to be alternatives to any formal education requirement. I also think that there should be some sort of continuing education requirement to maintain GCSAA Class A status. Many ways to meet these requirements have been discussed. These include local chapter meeting attendance, seminars, pesticide licenses, and even helping out in the community. This community involvement could include speaking to school groups or helping coach little league. I don't see a lot of us jumping on the HR Web to assess our competencies but most of us do competency assessment in a less structured manner every time we choose a meeting or seminar that we want to attend.

I will be serving on the GCSAA Education Committee again this year and we will be involved in two more days of cross-committee discussion on the PDI in mid-April. We will have another meeting in mid-July if there is a more finalized form of the PDI to look at. When there is something in writing to look at, I will make my final decision on how I personally will vote on PDI. At this point, I don't get too excited about what's being



President, Gary Carls, CGCS

discussed. This is only the opportunity for all of us to express opinions about what we like or don't like with the Initiative. It's also time for the Membership Standards Resource Group to format a presentation to the Chapter delegates in September. I urge any of you with any opinions to forward those to Ray Davies CGCS who is a current member of the MSRG or to myself in the coming weeks before the April meeting.

Thanks again to Ken Williams CGCS and the staff at Stanford for hosting our March meeting. I hope all that attended gained some valuable information to use in the future. Considering all of the recent rains, Ken, Ruben and the staff provided us with some excellent playing conditions. Don't forget to check the calendar for the dates of upcoming meetings including our 2nd Annual Field Workshop at Ruby Hill in May and the annual Supt./Pro event at Green Hills C.C. in June. The CGCSA State Meeting will be May 1st and 2nd in the San Diego area. Details should be arriving very soon in the mail.

Anyone who would like to host a GCSANC event in 2001 should contact Jeff Shafer or Gary Skolnik so we can start planning potential dates for next

From The President (Cont'd)

year. The sooner we can locate meeting sites, the easier it is to plan our schedule for the coming year. If you have any thoughts or ideas on educational topics you would like to see presented at upcoming meetings, contact Gary Sayre CGCS.

Finally, we regret the fact that our date change for the Media Event has created a conflict with a meeting scheduled by Novartis for the same day. We always strive to avoid conflicts with meetings scheduled by our other groups but were unable to reschedule our event at this late date. We apologize to any of those that we have affected and always hope to avoid such conflicts whenever possible in the future.

Until next month — Gary. ♣

Office Notes

By: Barbara Mikel

As usual, your new Board of Directors is sincere, conscientious and hard working! It's always good to have a "working" Board. This year is no exception to the rule in the operations of the GCSANC.

You may not have an idea of the amount of time and talent brought to your association. Some members not on the Board continue to work for the profession by serving on GCSAA committees, California Golf Course Superintendents Association committees and various industry affiliated organizations. We need many more of you to help with GCSANC committees!

California GCSA employs lobbyist George Steffes Inc. Jim Husting, CGCS continues to serve the industry in providing a well-founded link to legislative issues that affect golf. The "Economic Impact of Golf in California" is another project with industry wide participation. Dave Davies, CGCS and Jeff Ball have worked on this endeavor since inception. Bob Costa, CGCS has branched out to write for California Fairways the state publication. Gary Carls, CGCS continues to serve on various GCSAA committees as to other members of your Board of Directors. Ted Horton, CGCS has brought his work from one coast to the other. There are few direct financial rewards for these activities. There is only the knowledge that you just might bring something to improve your profession and community. You also get to spend a lot of time with some great fellow superintendents!

So where is this going? Other than to say thanks to those serving the industry, I would encourage each and every one of you to "participate". I know it is easy to complain; we all do it. **Try getting involved. Attend a general meeting. Attend a Board of Directors meeting!** They are open to all members. You'll definitely get the scoop on what's underway. Feel free to give a board member a call. We'll always be happy to have another "face" around the table. ♣

NCGA Taking Applications For Internship Program

The NCGA is now taking applications for three openings in the golf course superintendent internship program. The internship is a two-year paid program that requires participants to complete ten blocks of instruction. The blocks of instruction include learning to operate specialized equipment, understanding the irrigation system and setting the course up for tournament play. The applicants must have at least two years of college that includes courses in agronomy, horticulture, or turf management. Prior work experience on a golf course is highly recommended. The applicants must also understand the game of golf. Applicants will be placed at courses in Stockton, Pleasanton, and the Monterey Peninsula. Interested individuals can call the NCGA at 831-625-4653. All applications must be postmarked by May 1, 2000.

Naumann's NorCal News

Jess Pifferini is the Superintendent at Coyote Creek Golf Course in Coyote. He is joining another new employee, **Murray Nonhof** who has taken the position of Construction Superintendent in charge of rebuilding the old course, formerly known as Riverside Golf Course.....**Jim Stark** has accepted the Superintendent position at Ridgemark Golf and Country Club in Hollister. Jim was the assistant under Scott Lewis at Menlo Country Club prior to his move.....**Tom Unruh** has left Lightning W Ranch Golf Course in Carson City, Nevada to become the new Superintendent at Cinnabar Golf Course in San Jose.....**Mike Scolaro** is the new Superintendent at Hiddenbrooke Golf Course in Vallejo. Mike was the assistant prior to his move. He is replacing **Gil Styles** who has moved on to another position.....

Terry's Tournament Tips

Many thanks to Jeff Shafer, and all the people at The Course at Wente Vineyards, for stepping up at the last minute and hosting our Annual Media Day Event.

This promises to be one of our best events of the year. Jeff also has a few surprises planned. (7:30 am wine tour???) So get on the phone, get your foursome together, and mark your calendar for Wednesday April 12, 2000.

My actual tip for April is to come to Wente and enjoy a great day, or take up bowling!

PS: Jerry Berrow and his juniors will be with us at Wente, so bring any golf equipment that you would like to donate to Jerry's excellent junior golf program.