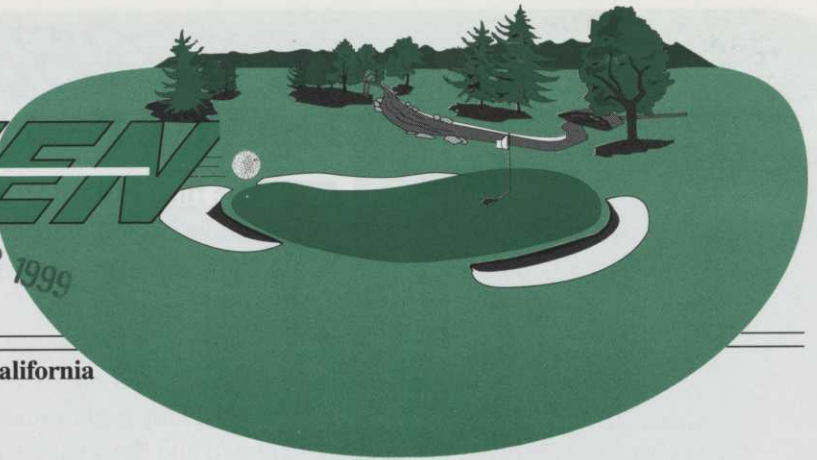


THRU THE GREEN

JAN 12 1999

January, 2000

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California



Mr. Unflappable - Dave Davies, CGCS

By Ken Williams, CGCS

Dave Davies, CGCS has been an unwavering leader of the GCSANC over the past two years. His passion and energy for the association and the profession have been utterly unbelievable. Despite a complete remodeling of his golf course, a new marriage, a Board decimated by attrition, and the travel duties of being a chapter delegate, Dave has handled the duties of President ridiculously well. If there is anyone who deserves a good pat on the back, it's Dave.

Now there's more to being a good leader than just hard work. Dave has that special something about him that makes most of us want to like him. Although I'm still at a loss to exactly figure out what "it" is. Let's see, is it his gruff exterior? His skepticism? His cynicism? His passion for motorcycling? His reticence and tact? All I really know is that he has "it." About the only way I can explain it is that he's kind of like the kid next door growing up. He's a true friend, whom you really

like, but still want to just go slug in the shoulder. Dave's a totally unique individual. But that's what makes him such a treasure. I can say it has definitely been a pleasure to serve on the board under his leadership.

His golf course, Palo Alto GC was originally designed by Billy Bell Jr. and built in 1956. The course had a partial remodel in 1977 on four of the holes. This past spring, a major remodeling project was completed. The design concept for the project was done by Halsey/Daray, and Key Turf did the golf construction and irrigation. The project included new irrigation, drainage, five completely new holes, three new greens complexes and an artificial turf driving range. All of the work was done while keeping an interim course open for play. The major component of the project was water management. Half of the course sat at or below sea level.

Dave has a full time staff of eleven to maintain his 150 acres of turf. The
See "Unflappable Dave" on page 3

NorCalendar

Jan. 5, 6, 2000
GCSAA Seminars
Sustainable GC Landscape Design
Lake & Aquatic Plant Management

January 18th
Annual Meeting at
Palo Alto Municipal Golf Course

February 14-20
GCSAA Conference & Show

March 6
Stanford GC - Etonic
"Enhancing Your Job
& Securing Your Future"

March 23
USGA/NCGA at Castlewood CC

April 10
Media Forum at Coyote Creek

GCSANC 2000 Election Slate of Candidates

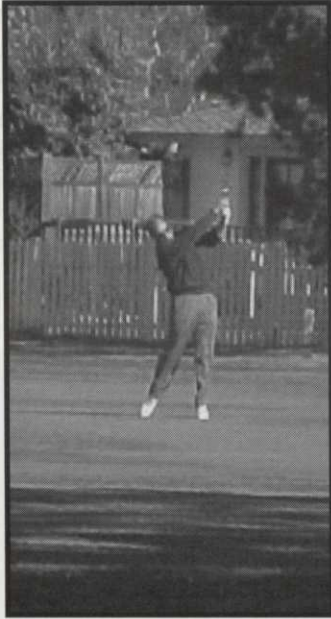
For
President Gary Carls, CGCS

For
Vice President Bob Costa, CGCS

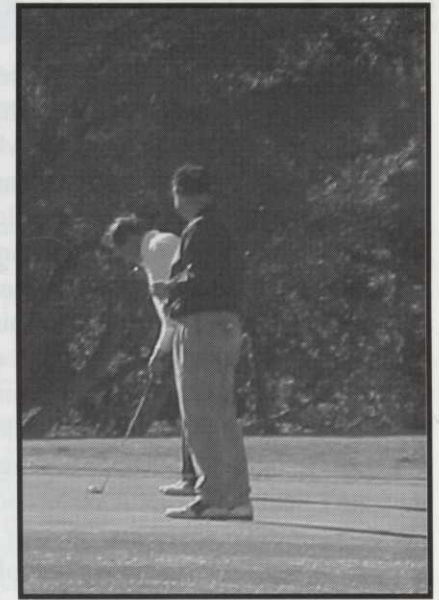
For
Director Mike Hill
Roger Robarge
Gary Skolnik

For
Sec/Treasurer Jeff Shafer
Bob Lopic

GCSANC has a blast at Old Del Monte



Host Pete Bibber, CGCS and the guys at Old Del Monte



Naumann works with Garvale on the finer points of putting

*See Holiday Meeting Golf Results on page 5

Office Notes (Cont'd)

more than one person. It is short notice I know, but we do have members in the area! I would only ask to receive a brief synopsis for the newsletter.

Renewals are coming in "hot and heavy". Membership cards are here and will be circulating as I update databases with new information and mail it out to all of you. I know this must sound like a broken record, but please make sure you send in your membership questionnaire. Each year after we publish the directory I get a call from a member wanting to know what his address, telephone number or company name isn't correct. Well folks I can only publish what I have. Your accounting departments sometime fail to forward the questionnaire. When I receive a renewal check without the questionnaire, I fax a second questionnaire to you. If I don't receive this back I can only assume you want your information to remain the same.

This brings me to another point. Some members are requesting a "lower case" email or upper and lower case on email accounts. The **email addresses are not case sensitive**. Dashes, spaces, etc. are important for email address but not letter case. Trying to convert these after they are entered into a database is time consuming! /

Unflappable Dave

course uses recycled water that is blended on site with potable water.

Future plans include expansion of the parking lot, renovation of six more greens, a new practice green complex, and a tree planting program.

Dave's been at Palo Alto nearly seven years now. Previously he was Superintendent at Dry Creek Ranch GC in Galt where he was very active in the Sierra Nevada chapter. He served as an assistant at Sunol, Crystal Springs, and Saratoga CC. Raised in Cupertino, Dave credits all the superintendents he has served under including Paul Dias, Bill Huff, Pete Galea, and Bill Andrade. Dave has his AA in Business Administration and just renewed his GCSAA certification status.

Dave was married in June to his lovely wife Beth. Both Dave and Beth each have two children from previous marriages. Dave enjoys music, snow skiing and of course "The Motorcycle." Dave logs between 5 - 10,000 miles per year on the bike. He's hoping to make Sturgis and the Memorial Day run to Washington DC sometime in the next few years. He's looking forward to a summer vacation now that his major course remodeling is done. He and Beth are talking about going to Canada or Europe in the next couple years.

Dave's shown an unwavering commitment to our Association over the years. He's stepped to the plate and took on way more than anyone expected. He has stood strong through thick and thin and has taken the criticism as well as the compliments. I hope all of you will let Dave know how much he is appreciated, even if it is with just a slug in the shoulder. /