



Final Thoughts . . .

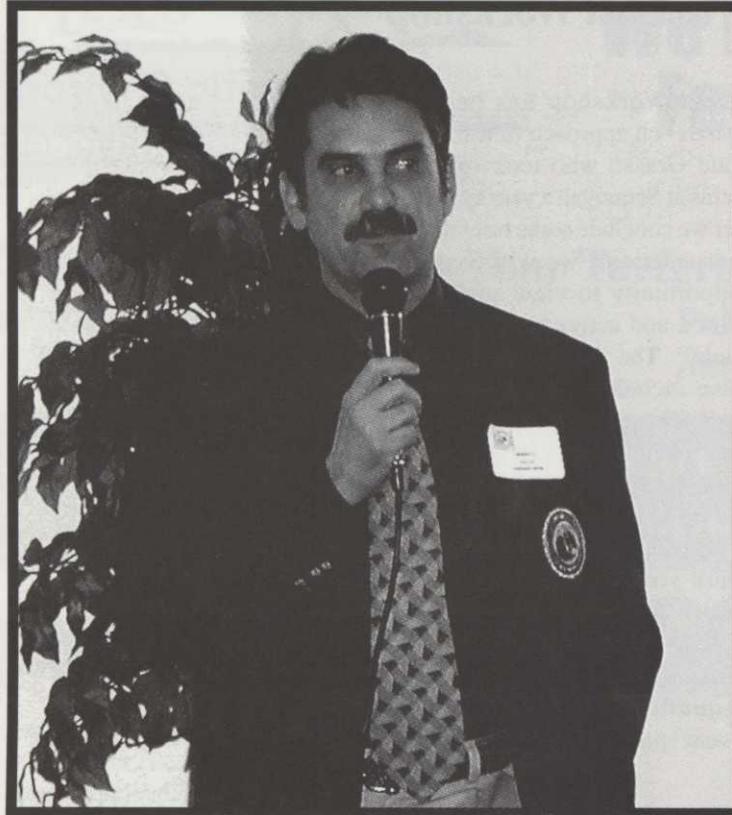
President's Message
by Bob Costa, CGCS

With a primary objective of increasing member value, the 2001 GCSAA Board of Directors are off and running. At the recently concluded April meeting, several items were either introduced, or approved that will offer greater value to our members.

One of those decisions was to provide partial financial support for a nematode study that has been proposed by U.C. Davis. The study will also receive financial support from the USGA, NCGA, and approximately 12 to 13 of the local clubs that have been impacted by the *Anguina pacificae* nematode. Under **Pat Finlen's** direction, the Board will continue to look to support research proposals that are of importance to Northern California clubs.

Past President **Gary Carls** continues to play an active role in association business. Gary was asked to develop a proposal for a bylaw change that would pave the way for Class C members to serve as directors on the Board. The Board's support of this bylaw change is fueled by the desire to recognize the contributions and perspective Assistant superintendents can bring to the Association. In addition, with the assistance of **Vince Keats**, Gary has finalized the GCSAA Regional Seminars for 2002. The seminars are scheduled for January 8th and 9th in Pleasanton and include Employee Safety Training and Fundamentals of Turfgrass Management II.

Concerning upcoming monthly meetings, **Jeff Shafer** and **Roger Robarge** have finalized several events, and what a lineup they have brought to the table. In June we start the



summer schedule with the Superintendent/Pro Invitational at Palo Alto Hills CC. This year's format will include a separate two-man event, which is open to **any** member. All entries will be considered on a first come first serve basis. In July we move to the coast for the inaugural Assistant Superintendent tournament on July 9th at De Laveaga. Assistants Superintendents **Jason Green**, **Mike Sousa** and **Steve Woodruff** have taken the lead in planning what should be a great event for Assistant and Affiliate members. August takes us further south to CordeValle for the Scholarship/Research and Education tournament. Need I say more? Finally, the golf portion of the season wraps up at Roddy Ranch where the Joint meeting will be held in early October. Added to the December schedule will be the first ever, mechanic's educational program. H.V. Carter's **Rex Gentry** has assumed the responsibility for planning this event.

For those in search of

education, April's Superintendent Workshop should more than fit the bill. Hosted by Sequoyah's Country Club's **Terry Grasso**, the 3rd Annual event should have a little something for everyone. Under the direction of our UC extension specialist and friend **Dr. Ali Harivandi**, this year's program features the presentations on the master-plan process and tree management, currently underway at Sequoyah. In keeping with another board objective for 2001, we will be recognizing the accomplishments of two of our most storied members and past GCSAA and GCSANC presidents, **Cliff Wagoner** and **Walter Boysen**.

So there you have it. A sampling of what is in store for 2001. Over the course of the next ten months I hope that each of you will take the opportunity to participate in one or more of these events. In the mean time, those of us who serve as Board members will continue to be mindful of our objective, and look for ways to increase the value of membership to each, and all of you.

Office Notes

By Barb Mikel

April showers? Yes, quite possibly! I flew to the April 4th Board of Directors Meeting with a 1 degree C temperature for the morning and weather forecasts for snow for the end of the week in my neighborhood.

THANKS to Dave Graves, Rex Gentry, Mike Ligon & all the H.V. CARTER COMPANY for your continued support of GCSANC and the use of your CENTRALLY LOCATED LIVERMORE FACILITIES for our geographically challenged board meetings. It is really difficult to find a location suitable for Monterey, Napa, South San Francisco, & San Jose.

April in Kansas is what I'll be experiencing this month. GCSAA is conducting a Chapter Manger's Workshop at the end of April to explain and explore the implications of PDI for Chapters and National. I understand over 60 affiliated chapter representatives are scheduled to be in Lawrence. I'll be there and the office will be closed from April 24 to May 5. I will return in time to attend the California Golf Course Superintendent's Association Annual meeting in Shell Beach. All the California Chapter Mangers will be in Lawrence and we will have an opportunity to meet again the summarize our impressions at the May 6 CGCSA function.

I am really sorry to miss the presentation of Clifford Wagoner's 50 year pin. We don't give many of those things away and we certainly can't find anyone more deserving of that pin than Clifford! (Well, maybe Myrtle!). I know Terry Grasso was planning to have former superintendent Walt Boysen at that meeting. Unfortunately,

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Office Notes (Cont'd)

Walt isn't going to make it. I had the pleasure of meeting him during the 65th Anniversary presentation at Bayonet & Black Horse Golf Course when he was presented is original membership application! Hope you all have a great time at Sequoyah!

Speaking of Terry Grasso.... Junior Golf Resources, Inc. was a program Terry brought to the Association while serving on the Board of Directors. We've had lots of superintendents make equipment donation to this program in addition to the financial contribution by the Association. Jerry Berrow, the director for Junior Golf Resources, Inc. is very pleased with the donations made at Sunnyvale Golf Course during the Annual Meeting. He tells us, he has received inquiries from the Czech Junior Golf Team regarding this program. Mr. Berrow is being taken to Cork, Ireland in May to assist in establishing two junior programs there. He hopes to continue and expand these contacts on behalf of junior golfers! See Terry, you started an "International Incident." We need more of these kinds of incidents! Where did I hear, "it's the quiet ones you really have to watch?" Thanks Terry, for it is the used equipment, lots of time, and the attention that keeps kids engaged and brightens the future of golf. /

Too Many Medical Flag Carts At Your Facility?

The Walking Impaired Golfers Association has developed an ADA Compliance/Accessibility Policy for golf courses designed to minimize the number of golf carts on courses, and to clearly identify the golfers who need special access.

"Golf course superintendents have a desire to keep their golf courses in top condition," said Fred L. Montgomery, WIGA chairman and CEO. "And the golf cart and its misuse by golfers is a major factor impact-

ing the golf course conditioning." WIGA has completed a study of club managers in which 82 percent of the respondents believed there were too many requests for medical flags and that a better system to is needed to identify the golfers with a real need. The policy is a response to those concerns.

For a draft copy of the policy, contact WIGA at (877) 480-9442, <mailto:wiga@mindspring.com>. /

Practice Balls Support Golf Accessibility Programs

It takes more than 26,000 practice golf balls for the 13 USGA national championships. Now, those golf balls, mostly donated by Titleist, have a second life in 30 golf programs supported by USGA Foundation grants.

The grants are part of the "For the Good of the Game" initiative to promote access and affordability to those who would otherwise not be exposed to the sport. Begun in 1997, the USGA initiative has awarded more than \$22 million.

"Golf balls are a necessary part of the equation for building a successful introductory golf

program," said David Fay, USGA executive director. "We thank the manufacturers who support our national championships each year with affordable golf balls for the practice ranges, and we want them to know that their golf balls are increasingly being used to support a common goal — to introduce the game of game to future generations."

"We are glad to be a part of making our national championships come to life, and to have the chance to encourage future champions," added Wally Uihlein, chairman and CEO of Acushnet. /

Central Chapter to Host State Meeting

The Central California GCSA has planned an outstanding California GCSA Annual Meeting & CGCSA/Club Car Golf Championship. The Annual Meeting will be held at the Cliff's Resort at Shell Beach, Shell Beach, CA. The Cliff's Resort is a beautiful area overlooking the Pacific Ocean. Shell Beach, Ca. is just a couple of miles north of Pismo Beach on Hwy. 101.

To encourage more Golf Course Superintendents to attend the Annual Meeting & Golf Championship, we have applied for GCSAA tested CEU's, for Certified Golf Course Superintendent's. California Pesticide CEU's have been applied for and GCSAA PDU's will be available.

The Central California GCSA has prepared an outstanding educational program for May 7th. Following the educational program will be the Butler's Dinner and Table Top Trade Show, which will make an enjoyable evening. Included in this years' meeting is a children's program, for the evening of May 7th. So why not plan a family event for the weekend of May 6-8, 2001.

If your main interest is the golf championship, you will play a new Peter Jacobsen golf course, called Cypress Ridge Golf Club.

This is your chance to take a family trip, see old friends and relax before the summer begins. /

Historical Correction: In last month's article, I mentioned that only two GCSANC members had ever been President of the GCSAA. Actually, there was a third GCSANC member who served as GCSAA president in 1959, Mr. Elmer Border. I apologize for the omission. Gary K. Carls CGCS

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