

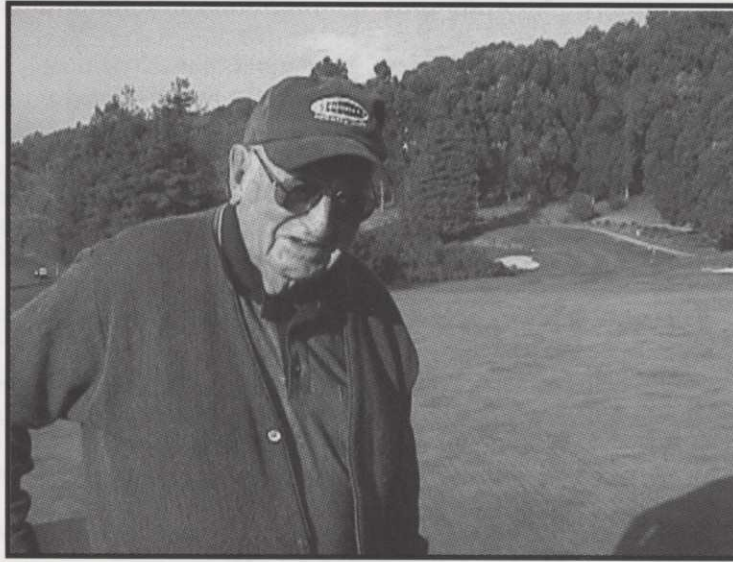


Mr. Walter Boysen of Sequoyah CC

By Gary K. Carls, CGCS

"We want very much, however, for the public and more particularly, the golfing public, to know what a 'golf superintendent' is, and what he does. It will still be up to the Chapter and its members to make the overall effort successful." Many of you probably think this is a quote from the past few years. Actually this quote is from Walter Boysen in his GCSAA President's message from May of 1967. He was discussing the start of GCSAA's public relations efforts.

Mr. Walter Boysen is one of the great men who helped shape GCSANC many years ago. In 1931 Walter Boysen graduated from U.C. Berkeley. Walter had spent his vacations while in high school and in college working on construction projects at the nearby Orinda Country Club. He worked there until 1933 as the assistant superintendent at which time he moved to Sequoyah C.C. as superintendent. After moving to Sequoyah C.C., Walter continued his education by taking night courses in agronomy and other related subjects. Walter



Walt Boysen revisiting Sequoyah Country Club

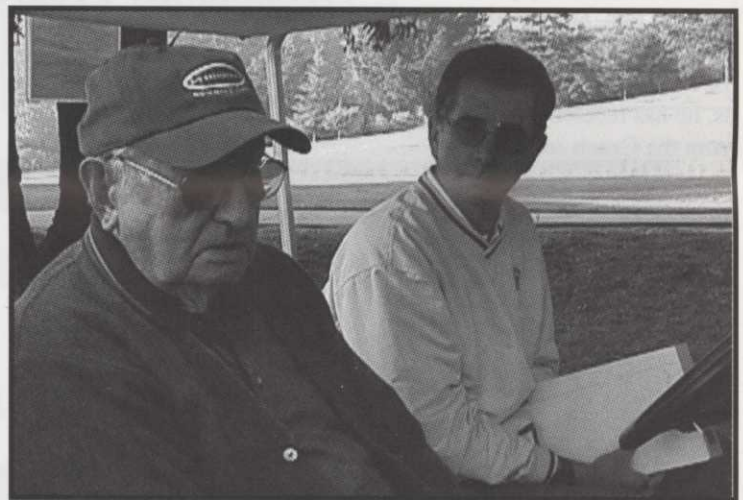
joined GCSANC in 1945 and GCSAA in 1949. In 1957 he served as president of GCSANC. It was Walter Boysen in 1965 who introduced the famous green blazers to the BOD that were worn by every board member until 1997. In 1967 Walter Boysen was elected GCSAA president and served as certification committee co-chairman. In 1970 Mr. Boysen was given a Class A Life Membership in GCSANC in gratitude for his many years of service to our chapter. He was honored again at the chapters

65th Anniversary in 1997 with a special Honorary Membership.

Walter Boysen was superintendent at Sequoyah C.C. for 50 years until his retirement in 1983. He set a great

example for future superintendents and proved that it is possible to remain at one club for a long period of time and be very successful. Walter attributed his longevity at one course to his dedication to show up everyday and always doing the best job possible with whatever resources he had to work with. Most of the time Walter worked with a five-man crew. Despite the small staff, they managed to do many in-house projects. This included everything from tree planting, to drainage work, and including many new tees. On a

recent visit to the course, Walter showed Terry Grasso many of the trees they had planted in his early years including redwoods that now stand over 40 feet tall. Imagine what your present course may be like in 50 years? As Sequoyah C.C. develops its long range plans for the future, some of Walter's expertise still influences those plans. One of Walter's hobbies has been painting. Many of his paintings of different holes at Sequoyah C.C. can be seen in the clubhouse and are being used to restore the holes to their original designs. The greens will be taken back to their "old style" and bunkering will model what existed during the years when Walt was superintendent.



Walt Sharing his experience with Terry Grasso

Recently Mr. Boysen suffered a stroke and is currently recuperating. Please keep him in your thoughts and prayers and wish him the best for a speedy recovery. His many years of service and dedication to GCSANC and GCSAA have benefited all of us in the profession. He is truly a great example of what we all should aspire to achieve in our careers.

On a



Walt shares memories with Sequoyah Member, Joe Tudesco.