



Wente's Shafer Participates In Leadership Training

By Bob Costa, CGCS

Jeff Shafer, Director of Golf Course Maintenance at the Course at Wente Vineyards is one of 19 members of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America who has been selected to participate in the association's Chapter Leadership Institute. According to Shafer, the CLI is designed to provide the necessary skills for each participant to become effective leaders of their local chapters. Shafer, who currently holds the position of Vice-President for the Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California, recently returned from a two-day workshop at GCSAA headquarters in Lawrence, Kansas.

"Success in this profession dictates learning the skills and

obtaining the knowledge necessary to become an effective leader," says Shafer, who is enthusiastically looking forward to the 16-month training program. In addition to the recent workshop, two more group meetings are scheduled at the 2001 and 2002 GCSAA Conference and Show. Those sessions are to be supplemented by web site discussions and a mentoring program.

In spite of the significant commitment required, Shafer sees a big payoff as a result of his involvement in the program. "Not only will my value as a leader to our local Chapter increase," says Shafer, "I expect my value and skills as a manager at The Course at Wente Vineyards to be enhanced as well." ↗



Jeff Shafer reads Treasurer's Report at GCSANC annual meeting.

GCSAA membership reaches all-time high of 21,000

Continuing a trend of strong membership growth that began in the mid-1990s, Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) President R. Scott Woodhead, CGCS announced the association's membership has climbed past the 21,000 mark.

Since January 1994, GCSAA membership has grown 58 percent (up from 13,300). Membership totals are computed on the last day of each month and include all membership classifications.

The GCSAA membership reflects a broad spectrum of professionals, including superintendents, assistant superintendents, golf course management executives, educators, students, corporations, industry representatives and others with a vested interest in golf course management. Members enjoy the numerous services and benefits provided through GCSAA membership. A professional staff of 120 serves the membership from association headquarters in Lawrence, Kan.

"GCSAA is a member-driven association, therefore, I believe the increase is a testament to the direction the members have established," said Woodhead, certified golf course superintendent at Valley View Golf Club in Bozeman, Mont. "Superintendents are joining the association because of the positive contributions it can make to their careers."

Since 1926, GCSAA has been the leading professional association for the men and women who manage and maintain golf facilities in the

United States and worldwide. From its headquarters in Lawrence, Kan., the association provides education, information and representation to more than 21,000 individual members in more than 65 countries. GCSAA's mission is to serve its members, advance their profession and enhance the enjoyment, growth and vitality of the game of golf. Visit GCSAA On-line at

www.gcsaa.org ↗