



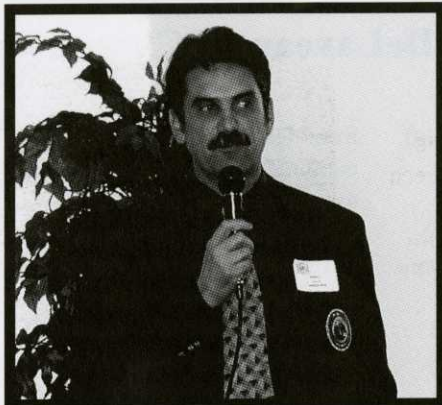
## Final Thoughts . . .

By Bob Costa, CGCS

### The Numbers Don't Lie

With the inaugural assistants tournament on the horizon, an interesting statistic was uncovered that I found surprising. As of May 2001 the association had only 65 assistant superintendent members, this out of a membership that includes 214 superintendents. Clearly, these numbers suggest that a significant percentage of assistant superintendents aren't members. In searching for an explanation, I concluded that the likely reason is that for many, their respective clubs do not pay their dues.

With a commitment by the GCSANC Board to expand the association's worth to members, specifically Assistants, one could hardly question the value of a GCSANC membership. If the annual dues are the primary limiting factor, there is some comfort knowing that, unlike the requirement for A and B members, Class C membership does not require dual membership with GCSAA. I encourage



those of you who have Assistants who are not members to give it some consideration. Allowing them to participate in this month's event would be a good way to initiate them into the association.

On behalf of those who have worked hard to make this event a reality, I extend an invitation to all of our members and nonmembers. Regretfully, I will be unable to attend, as I will be traveling to Israel in early July. However, I will look forward to hearing the stories of success from the meeting.

### Let's Take A Vote

Last year, I proposed the

concept of allowing Class C members to serve as Directors. With Board approval, we introduced our first candidate Jason Green, prior to January's annual meeting. At the last minute it was brought to the Board's attention that a bylaws change would be required and Jason was forced to withdraw his candidacy. In April, the Board approved the necessary changes to bylaws affecting Class C membership and now all that is left is to put it to vote. Because the objective is to allow eligible Class C members the opportunity to participate in the 2002 election, a special vote will be conducted at this year's GCSANC Institute in November. GCSANC Bylaws require amendments to be made at the annual meeting or a special meeting called by the President. The Institute was chosen because of the remaining scheduled meetings, it provides the best forum for discussion and the largest voting member

turnout. More information will be made available in the upcoming months.

### New Addition

Plans are in the works to develop an association trip to an A's game during the month of September. Board members Bob Lopic and Vince Keats are working on the details of the event, which will be open to all GCSANC members, their families and guests. After the challenges of a long summer it may provide welcome relief for all. The only questions that remains are how many games out the A's will be and will Jason Giambi be wearing Yankee pinstripes.

### Great Show

For the third time in the past decade Mike Garvale and Palo Alto Hills have played host to a NorCal event. I'm sure all that participated in the Superintendent/Pro event would agree that the staff and Mike put on a great show. Many thanks to Mike and also to Jeff Shafer, who worked extremely hard coordinating this event. /

## Office Notes

By Barb Mikel

GCSANC supports a program to provide financial assistance to those members and nonmembers meeting the requirements of the Scholarship program. The dollar amount varies depending on individual need, academic environment and Association resources. This year \$4000 has been budgeted to the Scholarship Program.

A Scholarship Award from GCSANC would pay tuition for at least two such programs centered on practical turf grass education. The Rutgers Professional Golf Turf Management School, Cook College, New Jersey and California College of the Desert both

provide a two-year Certificate program. A scholarship from GCSANC would provide a large percentage of total cost of either program. If you or someone you know is interested in the Scholarship program, contact Joel Ahern, San Jose Country Club, to learn more about this process. Many association members have already benefited from this Scholarship program, maybe you can be next!

Doing the business of GCSANC often brings the question, "Where the heck is Diamond Springs"? My usual answer is halfway between Sacramento and South Lake Tahoe on Highway 49 just off Highway 50 in El Dorado County. How'd you ever get

there? Well, in 1993 I decided to move myself and my company to "God's Country." My company, Easi Data Processing, was then located on Saratoga Avenue in San Jose, California (now Saratoga & Highway 85.) GCSANC was a three-year client of my company and the Board was agreeable to continuation of office, administrative and accounting services to GCSANC from my new location! (During April at GCSAA headquarters in Lawrence Kansas, I discovered I am one of a few Association Managers/Executive Secretaries maintaining an official business office. Most work from their homes.) If you are heading up to South Lake Tahoe on High-

way 50, stop by and say hello! Speaking of saying hello, I do like to talk with all GCSANC members. So if you want to speak to me live, the best time is between 12:00 and 5:00 pm. I won't always be in the office and I try to reserve mornings for other clients and projects requiring "no interruptions." Having a business listing for GCSANC brings a lot of interesting phone calls! I get people calling for information about golf courses all over the Northern California area. People wanting directions to courses and even the occasion "tee time" call! The information operators must come to the office listing first when searching for a golf listing! /