



Final Thoughts . . .

By Bob Costa, CGCS

Fall is in the Air

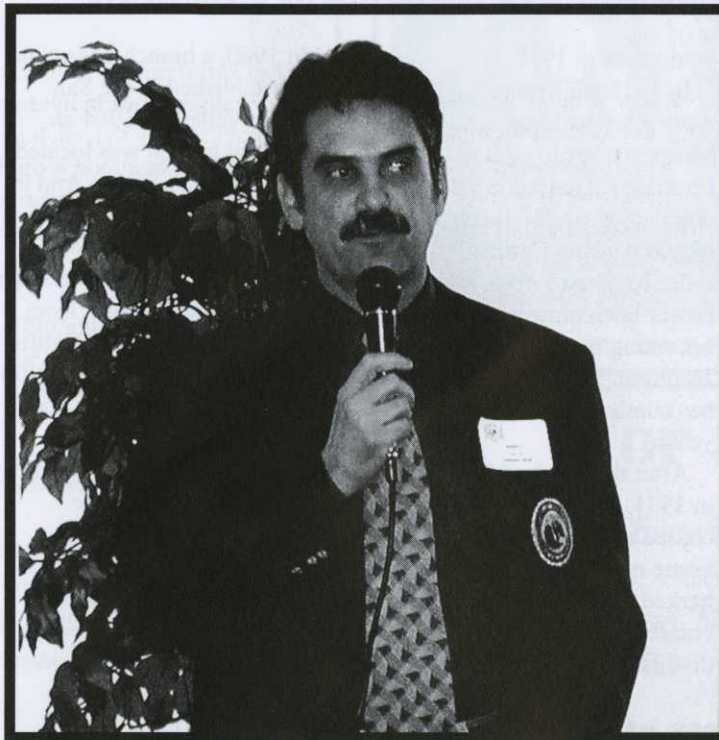
By far, fall is my favorite time of year. More than any other season it represents change. For those of us who work and live along the coast it, means cool crisp mornings and long awaited fogless days. It represents the end of baseball season, the start of football season and gives us our first glimpse of the holidays. Personally, it also means the arrival of the Superintendents Institute, an activity I have been involved in as a co-chair or committee member since it's inception in the early 90's.

What has always made the Institute so appealing, it that it combines quality education, in the form of the Conference and Trade Show, and a chance to network with your peers and industry representatives during the reception and golf event, all in the relaxed atmosphere of Santa Rosa.

This year the conference will rely heavily on information provided by superintendents and mechanics fulfilling the committee's philosophy to make the Institute a practical learning experience. In addition, we are again offering reduced registration fees to Assistant Superintendents and Mechanics. I encourage all of our members to join us on November 5th and 6th, as we continue the celebration of fall with the 2001 Institute.

Our Survey Says

One of the greatest frustrations I have suffered in my seven years of Board service is the lack of feedback from the membership. I can remember Past President



Dave Davies, in his soft-spoken voice, suggesting that even criticism would be welcomed, demonstrating that at least someone had an opinion. From a Board perspective comments from the membership not only provide direction, but can also be the source of new ideas.

Not being one to easily give up and in the spirit of Dave, shortly you will be receiving a member survey, most likely with your 2002 dues renewal. The survey will contain a few general questions for the entire membership and a handful more by member classification. Please take a few moments when it arrives to fill it out and offer your opinions and comments.

Reach Out and Help Someone

Unlike like any year that I can remember, several of our members have been affected by health issues or suffered personal tragedies this summer. Where possible the Board of Directors has made an effort to

acknowledge these hardships with a card or small gift. At the August board meeting a recommendation was made to establish a benevolence fund that would be available for GCSANC members in times of need. With unanimous Board support, Pat Finlen offered to explore the logistics of such a program and we will continue the discussion at future meet-

ings. A revenue source is obviously a key component of the funds success. Some of thoughts noted were to designate a percentage of the Scholarship Research tournament proceeds to a benevolence fund and to allow members to contribute through the dues renewal process. Personally I think it is a great way to provide another meaningful service to the membership, particularly to those in need.

Speaking of which, I am pleased to report that the GCSANC has made a donation of over \$1,000 dollars to the Thomas Burnett Foundation. Mr. Burnett was a Bay Area resident who perished in the terrorist plane crash in Pennsylvania. Mr. Burnett left behind a wife and three daughters, all under the age of five. The money was raised by way of a \$500.00 donation from the GCSANC as well as from a raffle held at the recently concluded Joint meeting. The winners of the raffle, Seana, Sean and Taylor Shafer (family of Jeff Shafer) graciously donated their portion back to the pot. Thanks to all who contributed.

Tournament Results

October 1, 2001

Roddy Ranch GC

Ryder Cup Match: GCSANC 7 1/2, SNGCSA 4 1/2

Gross Division: 1st place Joel Wong 73 (won card off)
2nd place Ross Brownlie 73
3rd place Matt Engleman 76

Net Division: 1st place Shane Howe 71
2nd place Tracy Shanahan 72
3rd place Mike Farm en 72

Skins: \$250

Hole #4 Joel Wong
Hole #14 Joel Wong