



Final Thoughts . . .

By Bob Costa, CGCS

No Place Like Home

As some of you may be aware, I had the fortune of taking an extended vacation during the month of July, 17 days to be exact, to travel to Israel with my wife and children. It was an experience I will not soon forget with one of the greatest rewards being, uninterrupted time with my family. Being so far from home, it was easy to forget the daily pressures associated with maintaining a golf course and once you let go, it feels pretty good. In spite of my short lived freedom from golf I did manage to locate and visit the only golf course in the country. Although the maintenance standards did not compare with most courses in America, I've seen worse. Remarkably, the golf professional, who was off the day we visited, was from none other than San Jose, California.

Once I had settled back in I was pleased to hear that the inaugural Assistant Superintendent tournament was a huge success and by all accounts will likely be inserted in to the annual meeting schedule. Like all of our events throughout the year, its success resulted from the collective efforts of many. First and foremost the trio of Steve Woodruff, Mike Sousa and Jason Green must be recognized, as should our host superintendent Don Paul and his staff. Likewise, I would like to personally thank our meeting sponsors, Anderson's Golf Products and Sierra Pacific Turf Supply for their support.

Here's to Good Health

I was also pleased to hear that two of long time members Cliff



Wagoner, CGCS and Frank Barberio are enjoying improved health. Cliff underwent open-heart surgery in late June and is well on his way to recovery. Frank, who was involved in a serious ATV accident also in June, has made a miraculous recovery of which we are particularly thankful.

So Far It's Been a Great Ride

I think most would agree, that of the four events GCSANC has sponsored this year, each has been a huge success. I would like to again acknowledge the efforts of Jeff Shafer and Roger Robarge who serve on the board as Program Cochairman. Roger and Jeff deserve a great deal of credit as do our each of our host superintendents. Speaking of success, how about that Scholarship event? In spite of a late night for those who hung around, it was truly an event to be remembered. The staff at Cordevalle could not have provided better service, and the course lived up to its advanced billing. Although we officially recognized Jim McPhilomy at

the meeting, congratulations are also in order to course superintendent Joel Erikson. And where would we be without the contributions of our affiliate sponsors, whose financial support is vital to the funding of future scholarships, research and education. Finally, thanks to Rex Gentry who truly made it all happen.

Fall Preview

Although it may not rival the networks fall lineup, the remaining four events of 2001 offer a bit of everything. In our version of survivor, we offer a family day at the A's game on Saturday September 22nd, for those who have survived the summer season. On October 1st, our Sierra Nevada brethren will join us as Roddy Ranch hosts the Joint meeting. November 5th, and 6th marks the return of the Institute in Santa Rosa and in December, we return yet again to the Monterey Peninsula to celebrate the Holidays at Fort Ord's Bayonet/Blackhorse and the Bay Park Hotel.

Office Notes

Barbara Mikel

The Bert Graves Memorial Scholarship Research Education Tournament is now history. It was a beautiful day with great attendance and excellent food. All in all it was a well-coordinated tournament. Rex Gentry, H.V. Carter Company Inc. and the Affiliate Committee consisting of Andy Slack, Spot Water Management, Gary Ingram, CGCS, LESCO, Bob Whittaker LESCO are to be congratulated on a great tournament. All were busy with sponsorship soliciting, dispensing shirts, selling raffle tickets, and distributing auction items so successfully auctioned by Jim Lipari of Speedy Enterprises. I certainly appreciated the help! Food and beverages were abundant and we didn't have to fight commute traffic on Highway 101! Final financial data is not available at time of writing, but it will be a very successful year for funding the scholarship program!

I hope everyone has received a membership directory by this time. If not, give the office a call and we'll mail one out to you. I had one member call wondering where some middle section pages went? If you have the same problem, please let me know. The printer is ready to replace those unsatisfactory ones! Each year the time and money on this directory seems to grow. I am somewhat frustrated (bet some of you are too!) with the inaccurate data. The process begins with you. I need current information to place in the directory. This year as late as March 30, I was requesting updated information from some members. I have a long list of members who never responded to requests for up-to-

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