



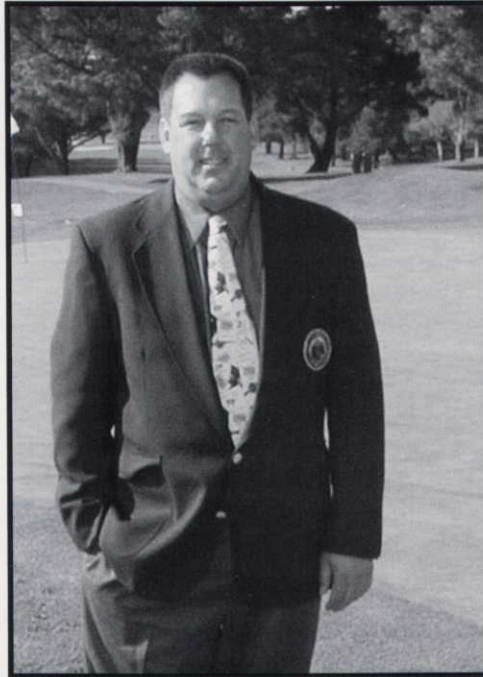
President's Message

By Jeff Shafer

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the membership this year as your President. I am honored and humbled, and will work towards representing you in a professional manner.

None of this would be possible without expressing thanks to many individuals. First, thanks to my wife and children for giving up family time and to Kent Alkire for allowing me to ride along on your coattails. As most of you are aware, serving on a Board or committee can take you away from the golf course, often at the most inopportune times. Thanks to my two Assistant Superintendents, Mike Souza and Gabe Bishop for putting in the long hours to keep the course in great shape. Equally, I thank my Service Manager, John Cunningham, for his dedication and friendship. The Went family continues to be supportive of my efforts and I am forever indebted.

As for you, the membership, many of you have offered an ear to listen, time to reflect and many hours of friendship and support. I would be remiss not to thank Randy Gai and Terry Grasso who welcomed me to Northern California years ago at my very first GCSANC meeting; Dave Davies who has assisted me on GCSAA assignments; Don Naumann for teaching me what a salesman can and cannot do; the past two Boards of Directors that helped me get up to speed quickly; Corey Eastwood for challenging me; Jim "Speedy" Lipari for being there when I needed someone; and finally Jim Hustung and Ted Horton for helping me to understand health and family come before



Jeff Shafer

work. Gentlemen, thank you.

Two individuals that I would also like to recognize and thank have committed tremendous time so that we can all enjoy the benefits we currently have. To Barb Mikel, thank you for serving the membership and assisting in directing us in a professional manner. As for Ken Williams, your dedication to the newsletter often goes unnoticed, but on behalf of the membership, thank you.

While September 11, 2001 reminded all of us how fragile, life can be, many of us have experienced in the past and some will unfortunately most likely experience in the future how fragile this business can be. Last night I read an article that summed up the

challenges that all of us face. It reminded me why I believe our local, state and national associations should be challenged to provide services that meet our needs.

Tony Dungy was fired recently as coach of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.... Dungy was the most successful coach in club history... leading the Bucs to the playoffs in four of the past five years.... The coach met Tuesday with general manager Rich McKay and the sons of the owner Malcom Glazer.... The article goes on to say, "It has been a privilege to work with not only Tony Dungy the coach, but Tony Dungy the man. This has been a most difficult decision. Tony has done great things for our football team and community."

How is a person that has done "great things" being fired? How does a Superintendent that has done "great things" get fired? Tony Dungy will get another job. So will that Superintendent. The difference is Tony Dungy makes an income that could support 10 of us. That Superintendent could now be out on the street.

Let us all come together to make a difference in each other's lives. Let us all offer constructive comments, not destructive comments. Let our association's provide services that make a difference, like education, benevolence and retirement. Let us take the time to call and invite someone who hasn't been to a meeting in some time. Let us chose to value difference, not devalue each other. Let us put our own agenda's aside for the good of others.

Let us not forget each other when trying to make a difference./

Office Notes

By Barb Mikel

Hope all are busy preparing to head for Orlando and the GCSAA Annual Convention. Me? I have lots and lots of projects that are keeping me home this year. But I am looking forward to next year's Convention in San Diego!

Some of those projects are included in this newsletter. You will find a new Membership Application and a



Membership Upgrade Form. Please use any old ones lying around for scratch paper. This form had been modified somewhat and makes for better office use. The Membership Upgrade Form looks a lot like the new Membership Application without a place for an attester signature or fee. If you keep one as a master for your office, you'll have

one on hand when that potential member that drops by.

I get calls at dues renewal time telling me, "I'm retired." Well, good for you but you need to do the paperwork to get those reduced fees. Yes, the retired members do get a reduced fee. So do Class A Life members and those who have been a GCSANC member for 25 continual years.

The adoption of new bylaws changes for the Affiliate and Associate classes will be reflected next year. We will be reviewing those classifications and sorting them out in the coming months. It is my hope to be able to increase membership of the association with that classification change.

Continued on page 4



Equipment Technician University

February 27, 2002

Castlewood CC, Pleasanton, Calif.

7:00- 8:00 a.m.	Registration
8:00 - 9:45 a.m.	Surges and Shorts: Diagnosing Electrical Problems B.J. Cannon, The Toro Company
9:45 - 10:00 a.m.	Break
10:00 -11:45 a.m.	Planning and executing Preventative Maintenance Schedules for golf course equipment Fidel Baca, Textron Golf Turf and Speciality Products
11:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	Lunch
12:45- 2:30 p.m.	What Leak? Troubleshooting Hydraulic Issues Graham Foot, The John Deere Company
2:30 - 3:00 p.m.	Starting an Equipment Technician Association on the local level. Tim Johnson, Royal Fox CC, St. Charles, IL
3:00 p.m.	Adjourn

Cost: \$20.00 — Includes: Break refreshments and lunch.

Content/Format: — A one-day intensive workshop for golf course equipment technicians that will cover important technical and professional issues in their field.

Registration Deadline: February 20 by mail only.

Please mail the attached form and a check for \$20.00 (sorry, no credit cards) made out to the NCGA to:

Northern California Golf Association
Attn: Mike McCullough, Director of Turfgrass Services
P.O. Box NCGA
Pebble Beach, CA 93953

For more information, visit the Turfgrass Services page on the NCGA web site at www.ncga.org or E-mail the Director of Turfgrass Services at mike@ncga.org. Phone: 831-625-4653 Fax: 831-625-0150

Palo Alto, Calif. Superintendent Receives Environmental Certification

David Davies, CGCS at Palo Alto Golf Course, Palo Alto, Calif., has earned an environmental management specialist certificate from the GCSAA for completing a specialization program in Employee Safety and Right-To-Know.

GCSAA is addressing the environmental impact of golf course maintenance and the increasingly complex training needs of golf course superintendents by offering specialized training through its Environmental Management Program (EMP). GCSAA's EMP consists of five specialized certification programs: Integrated Pest Management, Employee Safety and Right-To-Know, Water Quality and Application, Golf Course Development and Storage, Disposal and Recycling.

The Employee Safety and Right-To-Know specialization focuses on the responsibility to properly inform and train employees. It covers the standards required by regulatory agencies for safety in the workplace, community right-to-know and emergency response.

Turfgrass IPM (Integrated Pest Management) Wednesday, May 1, 2002 University Club, UC Davis Campus

The University of California Extension-Davis, is offering this one-day course which will focus on techniques needed for effective Integrated Pest Management (IPM) in all professionally maintained turfgrasses. It should be of interest to municipal parks and recreation site managers, golf course superintendents, sports turf managers, school and college grounds managers, cemetery turf managers, horticultural consultants, pest control advisors, turf seed and sod suppliers, and other professional turf and landscape managers. Six hours of Pest Control Advisors (CDFA), six hours of Certified Crop Advisor Continuing Education Credits, 0.6 hours of Certified Gold Course Superintendents are pending, and 0.6 Extension Continuing Education Credits will be awarded. To receive program details call 1-800-752-0881 or E-mail:

aginfo@unexmail.ucdavis.edu.

Office Notes (Cont'd)

Other projects in the works include on-line/E-mail newsletter & meeting registrations. Right now you can go to the California Web site and the Northern California Section (www.gcsaa.org/cgcsa) download a "PDF" file and view or print our GCSANC "Thru the Green" newsletter. Sometime in the future I hope to offer the E-mail option for receiving the newsletter. For some of you that makes sense (hey, you can save the photos that way!) For those of you (Jeff Shafer included) preferring the "feel" of the printed media, don't worry, we will keep you on the mailing list.

Next month look for an advertising insert for Newsletter sponsors!