

Board Room Briefs

By Vince Keats

State Meeting

GCSANC will be hosting the CGSCA annual meeting this year. P.J. Spellman reported that the site selected for the Annual CGSCA meeting will be the Monterey Bay Aquarium. Headquarters hotel will be the Double Tree. The Monterey Beach Resort will also be available for accommodations.

Jim Irvine has contacted potential speakers for the educational sessions. The candidates are: Dave Wienecke, USGA, Mike McCulloch, NCGA, Frank Wong, UC Davis, Larry Stowell, PACE and Mark Mahady. A sub committee was formed to include Jim, Pat, P. J. and Greg. The committee will make a progress report at the next meeting.

Spring Workshop

Jim Irvine formed the Workshop Educational Committee to include Ali Haravandi, Gary Ingram and Dave Kaplow from Pacific Coast Nursery. Bob Lopic requested Jim to add Terry Grasso and Emmy Moore Minister. Location for the workshop will be Metropolitan Golf Links on Monday April 28th.

National

Pat Finlen will be the GCSANC representative at the National Conference. Pat wanted BOD input on voting at the Conference. The BOD made the following recommendations for Pat:

Candidates for Director:

Gary Carls, Ricky Heine

Candidate for Secretary Treasurer:

Tim O'Neal

Dues increase:

Vote yes

By Laws Change:

Vote in favor of Articles of Incorporation

STRICTLY BUSINESS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Bob Lopic, CGCS
Orinda Country Club

I am deeply honored to serve this association. I thank you for this opportunity and am confident that I will not mess it up beyond repair. I've inherited a great group of Board members and I know they will keep me under control.

You are all aware of both the financial and service issues that our association has had to deal with in the past year. This year presents many of the same issues, but I want to thank you for providing one of the answers. Your overwhelming support of the modest dues increase, as shown by your vote at the Annual Meeting, is greatly appreciated.

While the economy is hard to forecast (and gloomy at best), the strength of this association is easy to realize. Our true power is in each and every one of our members. It is our passion and desire that helps all of us succeed as a group of dedicated and committed professionals.

Please reach out to a member who is not sharing in our association. Call someone, take him or her to a meeting and make sure that they feel the power of our group by introducing them to others. Given the choices of increasing fees, reducing services, or increasing our participatory base; increased participation is the best option. Be a part of the "outreach" program. You have the power.

At the time of this writing, our country is facing problems that in many ways make our challenges, as members of this association seem trite. Men and women from our communities are preparing to place themselves in harm's way so that we can go on with our daily life, as we know it. Doesn't that make growing grass seem as little less significant? Without taking a political stance, I feel safe in asking all of you to pray for their safe return. Travel in peace.

Bob

Passing Of The Gavel!



Last year's President, Jeff Shaffer accepts his award for a job well done by this year's President Bob Lopic.



OFFICE NOTES

Barb Mikel,
GCSANC Executive Secretary

This issue of "Thru the Green" represents a milestone. Published monthly since 1932, it is now bimonthly, expanding and enhancing the association. I really look forward to the new format.

The membership renewal process has been a challenge this year. Most of you have taken it in stride. That is a superintendent's best asset! Some members have returned the membership questionnaire with changes to Classifications. While we are happy you are upgrading and reclassifying, we need to have a formal signed application to make the change. You may have contacted GCSAA but you need to tell GCSANC too! Applications have been mailed to those members indicating a change. Please take a moment to fill it out and return to the office. NO MONEY is due for membership changes. If you would like those changes made before directory publishing (April), please fax them to the office ASAP. The deadline is March 10.

Hope all of you are planning to attend the May 2003 California Golf Course Superintendents Association Annual Meeting and Golf Tournament in Monterey. It has been along time since the meeting was held in the Northern part of the state so take advantage of this opportunity. A great education program and great golf course. And a great opportunity to meet "southern" superintendents & families.

Congratulations to all those players at Hilton Head Island. The golf results have California well represented, particularly the North Bay. Congratulations to Mike Clark, CGCS, Howard Fisher, CGCS and John Grant who must have enjoyed the course & the scenery! All the scores are posted in the GCSAA web site www.gcsaa.org "Atlanta 2003 Tournament Results". Some pretty "close encounters" were experienced by lots of NorCal golfers.

On a sad note, we all offer our sympathy to the families of Sam Singh, CGCS and James Donohue. Both longtime members who passed away this year.

Sam joined GCSANC in October of 1963. From Peachtree Golf & CC to Hawaii, Placerville, El Dorado County, Sacramento, Rohnert Park to Tilden Park.

James served as Director of Parks for the city of San Fernando from 1951 to 1957 and retired as Director of Recreation for the City of Salinas in 1984.

NorCal Elects 2003 Board of Directors

The GCSANC held its Annual Meeting on January 13 at The Course at Wente Vineyards in Livermore. The new President for 2003 is Bob Lopic of Orinda CC, Vice-President is Pat Finlen, CGCS of The Olympic Club, and Secretary-Treasurer is Vince Keats of Napa Valley CC. The new GCSANC Directors are Mike Hill of Moffett Field GC and Terry Grasso of Sequoyah CC. The new Affiliate Representative is Greg Fernald of Target Specialty Products. In addition, a Bylaw change was passed increasing the Class A and B annual dues to \$125.

The Annual Meeting provided the GCSANC a forum to recognize its Past-Presidents, 25-year members, and those receiving GCSAA Certification in 2002. The 25-year members recognized at Wente were Frank Barberio, Robert Duhr, Rich Lavine, CGCS, Philip Laret, Gale Love, Roger Martinez, and Don Naumann. They were given a beautiful GCSANC 25-year pin. The Past Presidents were recognized and given an embroidered GCSANC Past-President pocket crest to adorn a blazer. Also recognized were Jessie Crenca, CGCS; Steve Fackler, CGCS; Bruce Olsen, CGCS; and Roger Robarge, CGCS; for their achievement in attaining GCSAA Certification in 2002.

The association also gave out its annual awards. Winning the George Santana Distinguished Service award was Jim Ross, retired from Santa Teresa GC. Superintendent of the Year went to Ken Williams, CGCS of Stanford University GC. Affiliate of the Year was given to Andy Slack of Spot Water Management. Turfgrass Excellence in the Private category was Lou Tonelli of Lake Merced Golf & CC and Brad Langley of San Juan Oaks Golf Club in the Public category. Congratulations!

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