**GCSANC Member's**

**Take part in the Chapter Idea Fair in San Diego**

GCSAA-affiliated chapters have the opportunity to submit entries in the Second Annual Chapter Idea Fair (http://www.golfcourseshow.com/2004confer/ed/chapterideafair.asp) This event debuted at the Conference and Show in Atlanta, and provides an opportunity for chapters to share their innovative ideas and showcase their best practices. Chapters are invited to submit poster, easel or storyboard displays. Categories will include: community involvement, education programs, environment, fund raising activities, government relations, media/public relations, membership programs, research and miscellaneous.

To request an entry form or more information about the Idea Fair, contact the GCSAA Service Center at (800) 472-7878, or enter online at http://www.golfcourseshow.com/2004confer/ed/ideafair_form.asp

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**President Bob Lapic, CGCS**

Orinda Country Club

I take this opportunity to thank all of you. You've made my year as your President an honor and a pleasure.

I don't have enough space to tell you what Barbara Mikel means to this association. She helps in every facet of our organization and has been there for me at every turn. It has been a pleasure to work with someone with such integrity and professionalism.

Because P.J. Spellman, Andy Slack and Jim Irvine will not be on the Board next year, I want you all to know that these men worked tirelessly to produce great meetings throughout the year. They will definitely be missed, but the standards they set for us this year will continue to improve our association in the future.

Thank you Jeff Shafer, Pat Finlen, Vince Keats, Mike Hill, Terry Grasso and Greg Fernald for your guidance, patience, and commitment throughout the year. Our association is stronger by your efforts.

Emmy Moore-Minister, Tricia Hill, and Ken Williams are the people responsible for our much-improved Newsletter and image to the industry. We look good because of the light your talent shines on all of us. Thank you.

The long range planning and attention to environmental issues by Jim Husting, George Steffes, Gary Carls and Bob Costa is one of the most important works in progress that will keep our association, community and industry healthy. Thanks for doing the tough behind the scenes work.

Finally, to all those who hosted and sponsored an event this year, I will always appreciate what you have done.

I hope that you will all come to the Annual Meeting, January 26th at the Orinda CC to share in a celebration of the year past and participate in our future.

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**GCSAA San Diego Conference and Show**

**CalPoly Alumni “GATHERING” at Dick’s Last Resort**

Calling all Cal Poly alumni. If you want to remain in contact with your fellow turfgrass associates contact:

Thomas Bastis tbastis@msn.com or 650.246.1869 to have yourself included in the alumni database.

[See Dick’s Last Resort ad on Page 4]

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**President Bob Lapic Passes The Torch To Pat Finlen Jan. 2004**

All of us at the GCSANC appreciate Bob Lapic as a mentor and leader in the turf industry. His leadership and keen sensibility have been of great benefit to the association during his short term as president.
January 2004

Happy New Year! Last year was an eventful one for me. My office was moved (after 13 years in the previous location) in November. The new office is in a newly refurbished complex, which affords more technically advanced features. I am looking forward in better communicating with members through e-mails and faxes. Our new plans for meeting notices via fax and email are in the works. The GCSANC mailing address and telephone numbers remain the same.

Please note the California GCSA Web Site was moved to a new server in Nov. 2002. Some members have an old address for the CGCSA site saved in the Favorites/Bookmarks section of their web browsers. The old site is no longer being used or updated. Members are now requested to go to the new site at www.californiagcsa.org and update their browsers with the new link.

As always, the end of one year means a "changing of the guard" on the GCSANC board. Each board member brings his unique talents to your association. Retiring Presidents have made at least a 3-year commitment to the association. Some as many as five. You are fortunate to have the benefits of such committed members!

I would like to thank Andy Slack for his "above and beyond" call to duty. The affiliate board term is normally two years, but Andy did it for three. A more hardworking and easy fellow to work with is hard to find. Thanks, Andy! (And also to Bish for her help and support!)

Having re-used the old membership cards for a number of years, new ones are on the way. We will be utilizing your membership number in the upcoming months so keep those cards handy! If you have not renewed your membership, please take care of that immediately. I will be finalizing information for the directory shortly and would like current information.

Last year was a hard one economically for many courses. I hope that this year offers everyone an improved outlook!